# THE PAGEANT OF *Newark-on-Trent*

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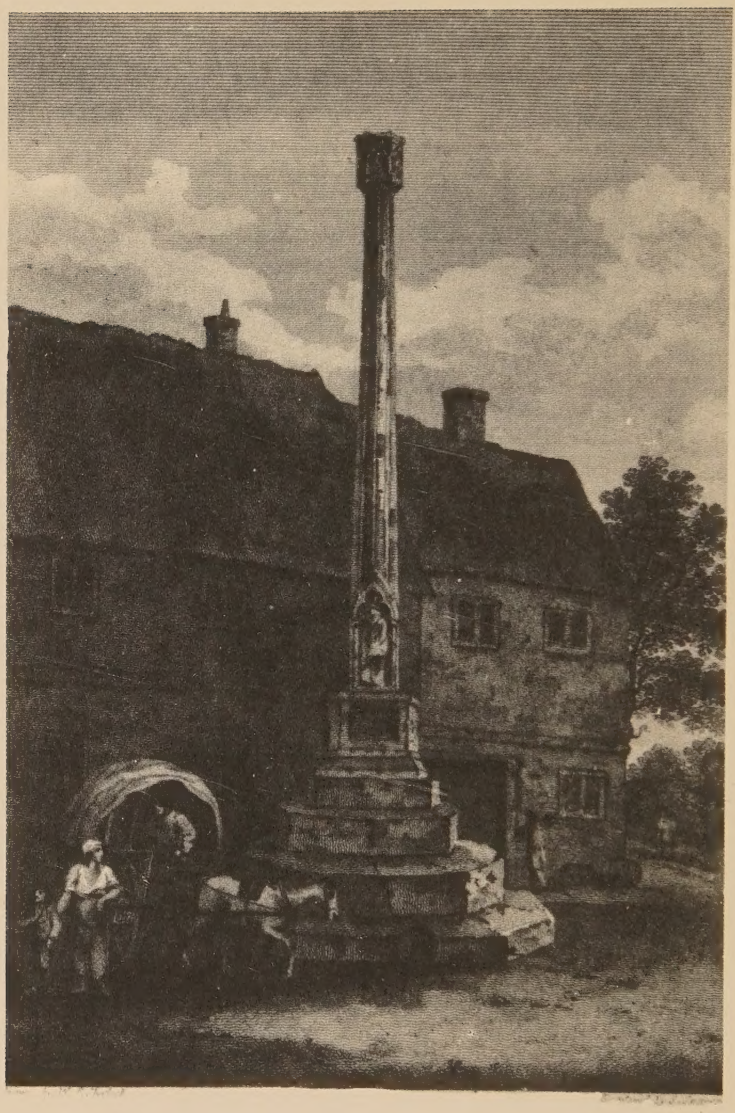
# *The Pageant of*
# NEWARK-ON-TRENT

THIS IS THE COAT-OF-ARMS OF OLD NEWARK, IN ENGLAND, NEWARK-ON-TRENT. *It was in use by that town as early as the siege of Constantinople in 1453. In 1916, our Celebration Year, a copy of this seal was sent to the Newark, New Jersey, library by the Newark-on-Trent Library. From it this copy was blazoned by Mr. Berthold Audsley of this city.*



THE BEAUMOND CROSS AS IT WAS BEFORE IT WAS "RESTORED." *This curious and beautiful column, still standing in the town at the intersection of three streets, was erected during the reign of Edward III, some time about 1330, as an incitement to religious thought and, possibly, as a place of sanctuary during the bloody quarrels that often broke out in the nearby market place. The name "Beaumond" comes from the fact that it was originally raised in the suburb of Beaumond, or Beaumont, which in those days was outside the town. Being almost 600 years old it is much time-worn, but impressive. From an engraving published in Newark in 1815.*

# THE PAGEANT OF NEWARK-ON-TRENT

*in Nottinghamshire*

Being a LIVELY ACCOUNT of that Ancient Town in Great Britain:

its Beginning and its Later History: in Especial those *Glorious Events* that Marked the *Great Siege* and *Surrender*, in the Year 1646, of its Noble Castle.

Set forth with Many *Embellishments* and much *Circumstance* from divers Written and Pictured Records

BY

L. H. PATTERSON, *Clerk*

And now Issued in this Wise at the Warrant of the Members of THE CARTERET BOOK CLUB *of Newark, New Jersey*, 1927

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# FOREWORD

*A YOUTHFUL city, which hopes to do well in the future, sends its compliments to an old city which has a proper pride in an admirable past.*

*That sentence does not mean that Newark on the Passaic, in the State of New Jersey, U. S. A., has not been diligent in living well for at least a few of its last decades; nor does it mean that this young Newark thinks that the thousand years and more of Newark upon Trent, in Nottingham County, England, has so rounded out its career that it will from now onwards merely rest in ease and dignity.*

*This book, and the interest and good will which that first sentence suggests, owe their existence to a series of events in which a comparison of these two cities, children of two ages and two continents, has no part.*

* * * *

*SOME twenty years ago the Newark, New Jersey, Library became conscious of the fact that there was once a John Cleveland, a royalist poet in Cromwell's day; that he was in Newark-on-Trent when that city was besieged by the Cromwell forces, and that he wrote an admirable and downright "No" to the demand of the besiegers that the city surrender. Thereupon, by good fortune, the Library came into possession of the original of that letter.*

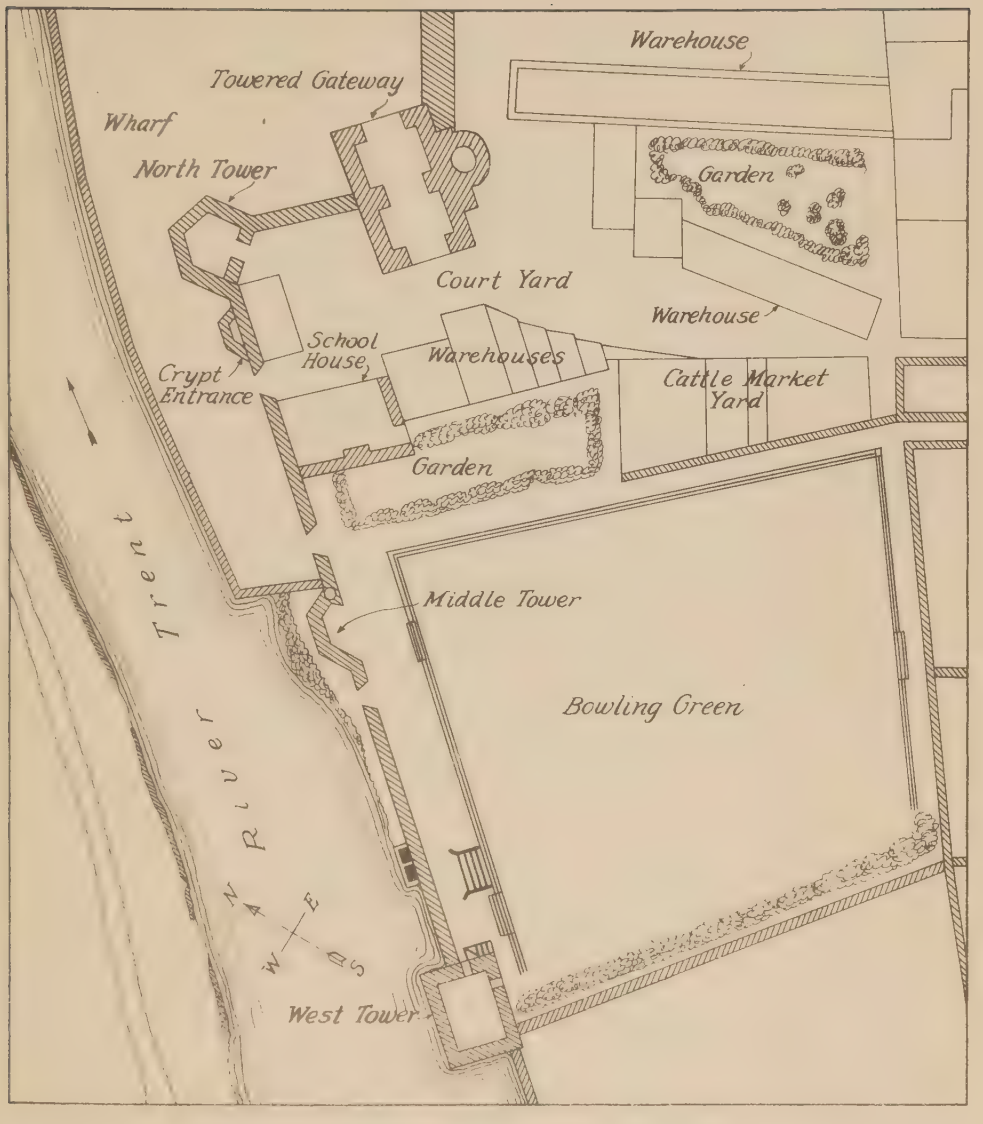
*To the legend, as yet unfounded, that the Rev. Abraham Pierson of our Newark's earliest days, had lived in Newark-on-Trent, and gave to the new town on the Passaic its name "Newark" for that reason, was added the fact that Grover Cleveland was born near our Newark, and might be of the same family as that of John Cleveland, the poet-satirist of Cromwellian things and the poet-besieged-but-not-cowed in the Old Newark-on-Trent. And so it came about that the Library bought rare original volumes of John Cleveland's poetry, and old pictures of the ancient Newark, and of the famous persons who had lived in or fought for or against that town in its more stirring days.*

*Years went by. One of the Library's best friends, Mr. Louis Bamberger, visited Old Newark, and much enjoyed his visit and bought there and gave to the Library an ancient painting of the city and certain of the rare silver money which was coined therein when it was besieged.*

*Then came the Carteret Book Club, wishing to find material for a publication which should touch on this city of ours, Newark on the Passaic, and here was the story of Old Newark, ready to its hand. So the Club commissioned Miss M. L. Gates of the library staff to spend a week in the old city; which she did, and was warmly welcomed by its good citizens, notably by those named and pictured in a note in this book, and brought back many more pictures of the city, of its people, and of the famous visitors,—Kings, Queens, Nobles and Warriors—whose names were worked into its history; Mr. L. H. Patterson, long a writer on our Newark Evening News, was then induced to write the book, and here it is; and, in memory of our own city's Pageant on its 250th birthday in 1916, he calls it "The Pageant" of Newark-on-Trent.*

*After all, though the whole story of this book's birth may be called a series of accidents, that series was guided to a good end by more than the mere identity of the names of an ancient English and a very modern American City. I, for one, at any rate, find the outcome of an excellence that is more than a mere accident; and I am pleased to add this suggestion, that if any reading Newarker wishes to refresh a little his History of England, he could hardly do it more enjoyably than by following out the leads given him by the names and events briefly set forth in this Pageant of Newark-on-Trent.*

*J. C. D.*




THE CASTLE OF NEWARK AND ITS ENVIRONS AS THEY WERE AT THE PERIOD OF THEIR GREATEST GLORY. *From a contemporary map, showing the walls of the fortress as they stood before being laid low by the soldiers of Cromwell, and the relation of the Castle to the River Trent and the contiguous terrain.*

# THE PAGEANT OF *Newark-on-Trent*

WHEN the City of Newark, New Jersey, celebrated in 1916 the 250th anniversary of its founding its citizens took considerable pride in being the sons of a very old town. In truth but one large city in New Jersey—Elizabeth—is older, and that by only two years. Yet in 1666 the town of *Newark-on-Trent*, in Nottinghamshire, England, had had a recorded existence of more than six hundred years, already was past its most glorious days and was on its way to the dignified retirement that now is its lot.

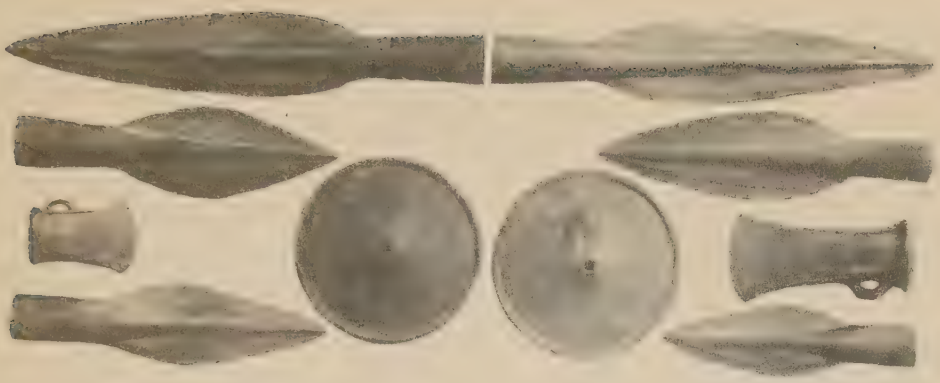
It had lived honorably, bravely, fully. Few old English towns have had a more picturesque career. In reviewing the years that have gone to its history-building a vast mural painting rises in the mind, limning a pageant progressing majestically before a spacious background. In the throng marching past are dim figures of men and women of that Age of Bronze which before the dawn of history left its records on the country round about; Kings and lesser folk from Saxon days through Normans, Plantagenets, Tudors and Stuarts, as the centuries marched in review, to men whose living personalities are remembered by veterans still alive.

As though painted on some vast back drop hung in a gigantic theater there are to be seen two noble buildings. The first and greater

is that ancient castle of Newark, "*Stronghold of the North*," within and without whose walls, now crumbling ruins, most of the stirring events of the town's vivid history have taken place; the other is that Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalene to this day the delight and pride of Newarkers. Truly would it prove a grandiose work, stimulating, enlightening. In the presence of such hoary age, such romance of history, Newark, New Jersey, stands as might some shy child before a patriarch.

It would be gratifying to this city were it possible to state with authority that the younger Newark is a daughter, even a niece, of *Newark-on-Trent*, in Nottinghamshire; but that is not possible. For a good many years a tradition has persisted that Newark-on-Passaic was named for *Newark-on-Trent* by Rev. Abraham Pierson of Robert Treat's band of pioneers from Connecticut. It apparently was one of those stories everyone takes as true because someone has stated it as fact. But not a great deal is known of Pierson's early life. There are documents to prove that he was born in Yorkshire before September 23, 1609, on which date there is a record of his baptism at Bradford. He went to Cambridge University and was graduated as a Bachelor of Arts of Trinity College in 1632. In the same year, on September 23, it is recorded in the Institutional Act Books of York Cathedral, he was ordained a deacon in the Church of England at the Collegiate Church —now known as the Minster, or Cathedral—at Southwell.

Southwell is a small town about seven miles from *Newark-on-Trent*, in Nottinghamshire. The Collegiate Church was attached to the Canon College in Southwell, which institution was under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of York. Just why the young Pierson was ordained in that church is not of record, as Southwell is eighty miles from York and at least fifty miles from Bradford, in which town Pierson originated and in and about which records of Piersons—or Pearsons—abound. But the circumstance of his ordination at Southwell may well have been connected with some association with *Newark-on-Trent*. There is a tradition that he preached in the Parish Church at the latter place; but it is only a tradition and not of record. So Southwell is as near to *Newark-on-Trent* as it is now possible to get Pierson, and



Relics of the Age of Bronze Found Near Newark. *These consist of six spear heads varying in length from ten and six-tenths inches to five and five-eighths inches. They are socketed and show rivet holes, with rebated blade edges. There are also two socketed celts, ribbed on the faces, one having a square mouth; also two discs, conical at center, with round holes at the apexes. Their diameter is four and one-quarter inches. They are now in the British Museum, having been presented to it in 1909 by J. Pierpont Morgan the elder.*

A Relic Perhaps of the Stone Age. *This flint arrowhead was found in a field near Newark. It is dark gray, mottled, tanged and originally had lateral barbs, now broken off. Now in the British Museum, the gift of Benjamin Brown of Newark, in 1879.*

that propinquity hardly justifies the belief that years later he was so fond of his *Newark-on-Trent* memories as to induce him to name the little village in far away America after it. Especially as all that is known of his career up to the time he sailed for America, in 1639, is tied up with Bradford, in Yorkshire, and in his day there was no love lost between the men of Yorkshire and those of Nottinghamshire. It all is very puzzling, and rather weak support of the assertion that Newark, New Jersey, was named for *Newark-on-Trent*, England. Besides all of which, it must be remembered that after his ordination as a Church of England deacon Pierson became a Presbyterian divine and abandoned all association with his former communion. The feeling at that time between the Established Church and Dissenters hardly could be called cordial.

It is a matter for regret on the New Jersey Newark's part that the tradition of *Newark-on-Trent's* sponsorship can not be proven; if the kinship may not be claimed of right it is the misfortune of the metropolis of New Jersey. *Newark-on-Trent* would be something to be proud of—so proud that this minor offering on the altar of history has been put together, first as a tribute of respect to a venerable town of the same name; and, second, in the hope that some later chronicler, reading it, may be spurred to establishing the now uncertain consanguinity.

So the New Jersey Newark will retire from the stage of the pageant and later references to "Newark" must be taken to mean *Newark-on-Trent*, which is some thousand years old, although it dates, as something more than a few scattered huts or fortified places, only from the time of Edward the Confessor. Still, that confers upon it a most respectable antiquity.

There are in the possession of British antiquarians some spear heads, axes and conical plates of bronze found in barrows, or mounds, near the site of the present Newark, proving that during that Age of Bronze which preceded the Age of Iron, or about 1,000 B. C., there were men living thereabouts who had reached a stage of considerable civilization. Following those dimly descried figures in the story of mankind came the men of the Iron Age, and after these, in A. D. 43,

the Romans, who left behind at the spot where Newark now stands many evidences of their centuries of occupation—coins, medals and other remains, and in especial that noble road, the Fosse Way, which runs straight through Newark and in part is still a roadway.

A word about this Fosse Way. As students of English history will recall, this Roman road is unique among its contemporaries for two reasons—one, because it is the only Roman road of importance that avoids any contact with London; and, second, because for almost its entire length from Exeter in the South to Lincoln in the North it runs its many miles as straightly as an arrow.

So Newark knew the Roman legions and heard the tramp of armies when Christendom was in its infancy, heard it for upwards of four hundred years. Yet it was not Newark then; probably little more than a posting station or some small fortified place on the road to the North. Without doubt there was a bridge over the river; clustered about the bridge heads, tiny groups of huts. The Romans of consequence had villas in the surrounding country, but none of these, so far as is known, was on the site of Newark.

KING JOHN WHOSE LIFE CAME TO AN END IN NEWARK CASTLE IN A ROOM STILL SHOWN TO VISITORS. *He reigned from 1199 to 1216 and paid at least a half-dozen visits to the Castle. He died there October 19, 1216. From a rare colored print published in London in 1804, It shows the King as a young man and without the ragged beard usually associated with his likeness.*

Then the Romans departed and the Angles from North Europe swooped down on the defenseless land and exterminated, or nearly so, the Britons. After the Angles, the Saxons; after the Saxons, the Danes, with all the wars and tribal feuds that covered the land with blood for

more than five hundred years. So we come to the year A. D. 1042 and Edward the Confessor, and from the welter rises the figure of Newark, at last a town of record, although it probably had an independent existence for at least a century before. Its natural advantages must have insured that.

Newark was an organized community under the Danish-Saxon Kings at least a quarter of a century before the Norman Conquest. Long before that it had some sort of entity. Less than a century ago workmen in the town dug up some urns recognized by antiquarians as burial urns. Inside were found charred bones of human beings, and with them a pair of tweezers, a fragment of a comb and a pair of scissors. The Anglo-Saxons wore their hair long, thus the comb; they had the habit of plucking out superfluous hairs, thus the tweezers; scissors were made by the ancient Britons. There was no doubt as to the discovery's "period".

Thus out of the confused background identifiable figures begin to appear. The Pageant of Newark assumes form and color.

BESIDE the figure of Edward the Confessor, almost the last, and among the greatest, of the Saxon Kings, under whose auspices Newark made its debut in documented history, stands the gracious figure of a woman. It is of that Lady Godiva whose ride through Coventry has been extolled in story and poem. Lady Godiva was the wife of the famous Earl Leofric, ruler of Mercia, in whose principality Newark stood, and was herself the lady of the manor roundabout, first owner of the lands containing the tiny settlement of some 100 souls, and sister of the Sheriff of Lincolnshire. There is a document in existence signed with her mark which is the charter of a monastery established by her at Stowe, near Newark, the site many years later of a famous battle. So the gracious Lady Godiva has her place in the pageant.

Now appears a dread figure. An immense man, of height and girth the heritage of giants. It is William the Conqueror himself, who knew Newark well and once marched his armies through it on one of his devastating campaigns against rebellious Northerners. And in the

KING HENRY III (1216–1272). *When his father, King John, died, Henry was a boy of ten years. On his accession a great gathering of nobles was held at Newark to swear fealty to the youthful ruler. There were 400 knights in the company. The Papal Legate, Guala, conferred the Apostolic blessing on the gathering. The next year, however, the Governor of the Castle, a Frenchman holding over from the mandate of King John, refused to surrender the fortress and it was placed under siege by King Henry's men. For six days the Castle was battered by siege guns hurling great stones, but it was not reduced, and the King's men finally entered by a payment of money. This siege was the first of importance the Castle underwent. King Henry probably visited Newark more than once, and did much for the little town in the way of improving its houses and living conditions.*

Doomsday Book, or first survey of the kingdom, the name of Newark appears in the schedule of lands of the Bishop of Lincoln—Remigius, first Norman appointed by King William to a British see. And so the great Conqueror plays his part. After him his son, William Rufus, touched Newark. He granted to Remigius the Abbey of Eynsham, near Oxford, and in the royal grant appears the name of Newark. Thus for a moment the Red King steps from the background.

By this time, about 1088, the monasteries that had suffered by reason of the invasion of 1066 had been reconstituted, Stowe, which included Newark in its landholdings, among them. Also, Newark had become a burgh, or brough, and was a fortified place. But much greater was to come. King Henry I named to the See of Lincoln the famous Alexander and it was the latter who founded Newark Castle. Before King Henry's death in 1135 it was in course of erection and the back drop of Newark's pageant was being made ready. The charter for the castle to Bishop Alexander was signed by the First Henry, and it is still in existence. In it Newark is called "Werc".

There must now come a halt in the procession while something is said about the Castle destined to play such a vital role in Newark history. It was to stand, impregnable, for more than five hundred years, never taken by assault, three times unsuccessfully besieged, to fall at the last before the craven spirit of a King to whom it had been faithful to death.

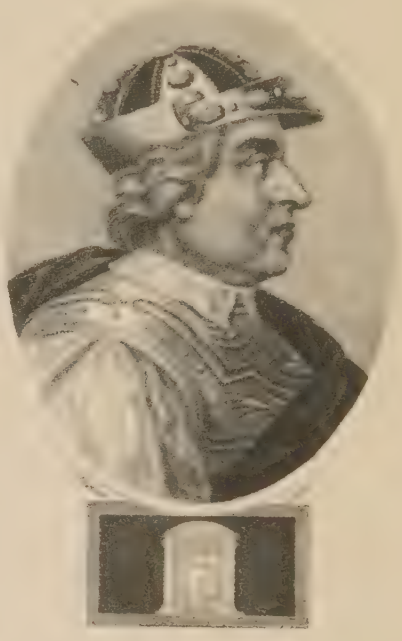
THE Castle of Newark dates from about 1130. Today the visitor may see a very fine gateway tower, the lower part of the south-west tower, and some portions of the west and south walls. It was probably square at its beginning, covering acres of ground. For what it looked like in the Twelfth Century one must depend on the antiquary E. W. Godwin, who, late in the Nineteenth Century, wrote of the Norman castles as follows: "A castle of the most perfect construction occupied acres, which were surrounded by a lofty and very thick wall, often embattled and flanked with towers, and further protected by a ditch or moat. Within were three principal divisions: First, the outer ballium, or courtyard, the approach to which was guarded by a

barbican or towered gateway. In this were the stables and a mount of command. Second, the inner ballium or quadrangle, also defended by a gateway or tower, and within which second court stood the keep, the chapel, and the barracks. Third, the donjon or keep, which was the real citadel, self-dependent and always provided with a well. This inner fortress was of enormous strength, generally square, and very high." Those who have visited the Tower of London have seen in the White Tower a true Norman keep. That at Newark may have been similar.

Of course Newark Castle had on its west side a ready made moat in the River Trent, which flows beneath its walls. Its great gateway, of true Norman type, has been preserved and has been called the finest example of such construction in all England. It consists of a rectangular tower 41 by 31 feet, and about 35 feet high, having an outer and inner archway and a strong gateway in the center. There apparently was no portcullis, but there must have been a drawbridge over the moat. Remains of several rooms may be observed in the upper portion of the tower.

It is likely that the present west wall was erected during the latter part of the Thirteenth Century, a restoration of the first, with the additions of the fine hexagonal northwest tower and the smaller semi-hexagonal central tower. Within this newer wall was the great hall, as traces on the inside walls show. This hall was 130 feet long, 22 feet wide and 31 feet high. To realize the grandeur of such an apartment in the Thirteenth Century one must recall that at that time the common people lived in huts of wood with thatched roofs and no protection for the windows, if any. Beneath a part of this great hall was a crypt, still to be seen, vaulted, two bays in width and four in length, altogether 44 feet long and 22 feet wide. The total length of the castle from north to south was 260 feet and its width from the west wall to the center of the gateway tower was about sixty feet. What its total width was in the days of its greatest glory it is now not possible to estimate with any degree of accuracy, but that it was almost square in ground plan seems likely. The Norman work may even yet be distinguished from that of later periods.

As the centuries passed the Castle underwent many changes and enjoyed many improvements. Larger windows replaced the early small ones, and the increasing comforts of an advancing civilization were reflected in its furnishings. At the end of the Fifteenth, or more probably at the beginning of the Sixteenth Century, important alterations were made to the Norman gateway tower, while the rooms were subdivided or partially reconstructed with new doors and fireplaces. Then in the Seventeenth Century came the Civil Wars, in which Newark Castle played such a great part—and then, destruction. On succeeding pages will be told the story of its sieges and surrender to the soldiers of Cromwell. There will be told how the garrison marched out with full honors of war, and how at once the Parliamentary generals ordered the razing of the splendid pile. It became a ruin, but kinder hands of later years arrested the progress of decay and now it is piously preserved as a monument to Newark's past.



EDWARD IV (1461–1483). *This Monarch was twice in Newark, in 1462 and 1471. The town on both occasions saw some of the fighting between the rival houses of Lancaster and York, and in the latter year would have been the scene of a pitched battle had not the forces of Lancaster under the Earl of Oxford retired. This curious portrait with its head covering resembling the cap of a jockey, is from a colored engraving taken from an old painting and published in London in 1804.*

In passing, a brief story of that Bishop Alexander who created the original Castle. Alexander was the natural son of Roger, Bishop of Lincoln and a great lord among the great of his time. An old chronicler describes him thus: "He was called a Bishop, but he was a man of vast pomp and of great boldness and audacity. Neglecting the pure and simple way of life belonging

to the Christian religion, he gave himself up to military affairs and secular pomp, taking with him whenever he appeared at court, so vast a band of followers that all men marvelled." In building Newark Castle he but emulated his "uncle", as the softer word was, who was the greatest builder of his century. Besides the one at Newark, Alexander erected castles at Sleaford and Banbury, and then, perhaps realizing that such fortresses were not altogether fitting his Episcopal office, he established as many monasteries.

To meet the enormous cost of his enterprises Bishop Alexander despoiled the rich of their goods and expended the vast revenues of the see. At the Court of Rome he was named "the Magnificent", or doer of good deeds, as the name then signified. He founded at Newark a hospital "for poor and miserable folk", most of whose poverty and misery was caused by himself. At the close of his life he became embroiled with King Stephen and was deprived of all his castles. But Stephen eventually ceased to be King and Bishop Alexander again came up in the world. He got his Castle of Newark back, and died highly respected and greatly feared, at Lincoln, in 1148. A notable figure.

ANOTHER towering personality now looms in Newark's history. Stephen, Henry II and Richard I passed on without making any personal impress on the city, and King John ruled the kingdom. This grim monarch had much to do with the Castle. He not only paid it many visits, he died in it—the only king whose life came to an end within its frowning walls. His reign was, as all know, one of storm and stress. Towards the middle of 1216 the French Prince Louis, son of King Philip, tried to gain possession of the Kingdom. King John gathered his armies before Lincoln to do battle with Gilbert de Gaunt, in command of Louis's troops. He relieved the city, besieged by the barons. The King left Lincoln October 2, 1216, and set out for Dover, where Hubert de Burgh, one of his generals, was hard pressed. The story of his misfortune at The Wash, where he lost his stores and treasure in the rising tide, is familiar. He fell ill and was carried in a litter as far as Newark, where he had planned to recuperate. He

reached Newark Castle October 16. By that time he was desperately ill. Tradition has it that he was poisoned, but more likely he was worn out with grief and anxiety over his miserable fortunes. At any rate he died three days later after transacting considerable business. For a dying man he displayed great fortitude. He wrote a number of important letters and dictated his will—a short but business-like document, conferring powers on his executors and giving directions as to the disposition of his body. As was said later of another King, "Nothing in his life became him like the leaving of it".

Local gossips like to point out a room in the ruins of the Castle as that in which King John died. But it is only tradition; nothing more. That he actually passed away somewhere within the great building admits of no dispute. So departs King John, to give way to King Henry III, who also had cause to know Newark very well before the close of his long reign.

When the Boy King succeeded his father—he was only ten years old—the barons were besieging the Castle of Lincoln, which was being ably defended by a woman, Lady Nicola de Haye, whose father had been its constable up to his death a few years before. She was no longer young, but full of spirit. The forces of the young King assembled at Newark to give battle to the insurgent barons. With them was Cardinal Guala, the Papal Legate, to give the troops absolution and encourage them in their high endeavor. There were gathered at the Castle, according to an old chronicle, "four hundred knights and 250 cross bowmen; servants also and others flocked in great numbers". It must have been a wonderful sight for the townsmen of that Newark which at that time was little more than a collection of huts made of wood and plaster. The scene at the departure of the troops is described as follows:

"On the sixth day of Whitsuntide after the celebration of the Holy Sacrament the Papal Legate rose up and set forth to all how unjust was the cause of Louis, and of the barons who adhered to him. And in order to animate the army to battle, he put on his white robes, and with all the clergy present excommunicated Louis by name and his accomplices and abettors, and especially all those who were carrying

on the siege of Lincoln against the King of England, and to those who had come in person to the King's help he granted a full pardon of their sins of which they had made a true confession, by the power granted to him by God Almighty, and by the Apostolic See, and promised the just reward of eternal salvation. The absolution and blessing of God having been conferred on all, they flew to arms, mounted their horses in haste, and struck their camp rejoicing". They reached Lincoln the next day and defeated the barons' troops handsomely. Later Louis departed for France and the Boy King was firmly seated on his throne.

HENRY VII, ONE OF ENGLAND'S GREATEST RULERS, WHOSE CONNECTION WITH NEWARK WAS CLOSE. *He reigned from 1485 to 1509. In 1487, almost within sight and sound of the town, was fought, in and about the village of Stoke, the battle that placed the King firmly on the throne and began the Tudor period. Opposed to the King were the forces backing Lambert Simnel, the bogus Duke of York. Henry VII won the battle, in which the loss of life was very severe. Many Newark men were engaged in the fighting. From a colored print published in London in 1799.*

But trouble followed speedily. King John's custodian of Newark Castle was Lord Robert de Gaugy, a Frenchman. When King Henry III ordered that all the Bishops' castles should be delivered up to them, de Gaugy refused to surrender Newark to the Bishop of Lincoln, and the stronghold underwent its first important siege. At this, powerful mangonels, or stone-throwing engines, were used and did much damage to the stout walls; but did not force the Castle's capitulation. For a week great stones banged against the stronghold, but de Gaugy held out. Finally he was induced to give up the defense on payment by the Bishop of 100 pounds sterling, a great

sum of money in a period when a day laborer was glad to receive one penny a day, ostensibly in payment for stores laid up by de Gaugy in the Castle. So the Castle withstood its first siege triumphantly.

It is likely that during his troublous reign, with its many battles, marches and counter-marches King Henry III was more than once at Newark and its Castle. A charter conferred by him on the town is dated from Newark, November 23, 1228. Of local interest to Newark is the fact that the earliest deeds to lands within the town limits, preserved today in the Records Office, date from the time of Henry III.

ANOTHER pause while note is taken of another mighty figure, Edward I, who had—and lost—that gracious Queen, Eleanor. The great King on many occasions rode through the streets of Newark, sometimes on peaceful, but more often on warlike occasions. His first visit was in 1256, when he went to Blythe to attend a Parliament there. But most of the visits were due to his determination to incorporate England and Scotland—an ambition that never was to be realized. The town being on the main road from London to Berwick he went through it many times on his journeys north. And it was at Harby, but a few miles from Newark, that his beautiful and beloved Queen died. "I loved her tenderly in her lifetime," Edward wrote not long afterward, "and I do not cease to love her now she is dead". As wonderful a tribute as a bereaved husband ever paid to a wife.

Which brings in the Beaumond Cross, that ancient land mark which still adorns Newark. This has been claimed as an "Eleanor Cross", one of those fine memorials set up by Edward to mark the dead Queen's stopping places on her last journey to London. It is not, unfortunately for sentiment, an Eleanor Cross, but it might have been. It was, in all probability, a memorial to the Beaumond family, or some member of it, as Beaumond was a familiar name in the Newark countryside and also was the name of a suburb of the town.

No one who may visit the Newark of today should fail to pay a visit to the Beaumond Cross. Its antiquity is apparent and its grace and symmetry unforgettable. Whatever was the motive for its erec-

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tion it was a work of art, produced in those Middle Ages marked by depths of poverty and unbelievable magnificence of riches. In that period crosses were set up to attract the eye of devotion, as memorials to individuals and as refuges from pursuit, having the same efficacy as church sanctuaries. In the opinion of antiquaries and architects the Beaumond Cross was set up about 1330, in the reign of Edward III. It has formally been described thus:

"On a pile of octagonal steps, surmounted by a plinth, in the form of an octagonal prism, about 2½ feet high and the same in width, stands the shaft, which is perhaps fourteen feet in height. It is curiously wrought longitudinally, being alternately fluted and wrought with outstanding scrolls. It is about eighteen inches in diameter at the bottom, but it tapers to about one foot. The surface is broken only by a kind of recess at the bottom, in the shape of a partly projecting miniature Gothic porch, which forms a niche for the reception of a now almost shapeless standing figure or statuette, which perhaps originated the idea of its being a memorial erected to perpetuate the memory of the person represented by the effigy. The shaft is terminated at the upper end by a finely wrought ornamental capital of an octagonal form, on the sides of which are eight figures sitting each in a shallow recess. This forms the whole of what remains of the original structure, the steps, etc., being modern".

In 1778 the cross was repaired and ornamented at the expense of a citizen, and again in 1801 a capstone, conical in shape, was added. It is not in the center of the town, by any means, but at the junction of several streets in an out-of-the-way corner, lending color to the tradition that when it was erected it was in a suburb. For more than 600 years it has stood there, quietly dominating its surroundings with the dignity that great age gives to inanimate objects. Not the least impressive memorial in the town, despite—or perhaps because of—the mystery of its origin and meaning.

THE reign of Edward II meant little to Newark save a succession of ruinous taxes, frequent murders and assaults on the highways and terrible destitution among the common people. In the reign of

Edward III Newark began to become a center of a wool-producing district and was marked by the immigration of many weavers from Flanders whose name was taken by that family of Flemings, the fame of one of whom is perpetuated by the wonderful "Fleming Brass" which is one of the glories of the Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalene. This brass is such an extraordinary work of art that a somewhat detailed description of it is necessary at this point.

THOMAS CARDINAL WOLSEY, THE GREAT MINISTER OF HENRY VIII, WHOSE POWER WAS SUPREME FROM 1513 TO 1529. *He passed through Newark after his downfall on his way to York in 1530 shortly before he died. He was a confidential friend and patron of Dr. Thomas Magnus of Newark, who founded the Magnus School, still in existence. From an old print showing the Cardinal in his heyday.*

The brass, or memorial tablet, was erected in 1361 to the memory of Alan Fleming, a rich wool merchant of the period. It is admitted to be one of the finest and most elaborate brasses in all England. It measures nine feet four inches by five feet seven inches and is carved with much magnificence. Fleming is shown in a civilian's habit of the time—in itself an interesting example of the garb of a wealthy citizen of the Middle Ages. His dress consists of a long tunic with straight sleeves having lappets lined with fur, a cape covering the shoulders. The hands are joined in prayer. The figure stands beneath an ornate triple canopy containing a number of figures of saints. The background is crowded with the grotesque forms often met with in Fourteenth Century mortuary monuments. The inscription, in sunken lettering on the verge, is most curious. It reads: "Here lies Alan Fleming, who died in the year 1361, on the day of St. Helena, may his soul rest in peace by the mercy of God. Amen. I believe that my Redeemer liveth, and that I shall rise up from the earth on the last day, and shall again be clothed with my skin, and

in my flesh I shall see God my Saviour, whom I shall see myself, and my eyes shall view and not another, this my hope is laid up in my bosom".

Both Fleming and his wife were benefactors of the church and were persons of importance without doubt. And now that this history has been brought within the walls of the Parish Church of Newark another digression may be taken from the main narrative to tell of that remarkable structure and something of its history.

KING HENRY VIII (1509–1547). *During his reign Newark was incorporated as a borough. This King also dissolved the Newark chantries or religious establishments. From an unusual and little known print showing the King probably at the close of his life, his face emaciated and his expression far from that of the "Bluff King Hal" of early manhood. Published in London in 1804.*

THE Church of St. Mary Magdalene was begun about 1180, probably on the site of an earlier Saxon edifice. It was a large church building even in its infancy, probably cruciform, as today. The west tower was begun about 1230, shortly after the death of King John, which shows how closely after the founding of Newark Castle came the erection of the Parish Church. The Castle was perhaps a little more than fifty years the older.

Today the church is one of the finest examples of perpendicular Gothic in all England, but its growth into its present grace and beauty has been gradual. It is probable that four centuries were required to complete it, and many alterations have been made in it in modern times. The earliest portions are of the Transitional style between Norman and Early Pointed. The earlier remains, however, are very few, consisting solely of the four

piers forming the intersection, or crossing, and part of the crypt under the choir. The western tower was built about 1230, during the reign of Henry II. Further work was not done upon the fabric for some eighty years. About 1310 the church as originally laid down was largely rebuilt in the form it is today, though the reconstruction was not completed until about 1400. During the building of the upper stage of the tower and spire came the visitation of the Black Death, which swept away more than one-third the population of the country. The construction work was necessarily interrupted, for how long the records do not show, but it must have been for nearly forty years. The south aisle, the nave and the north aisle were completed during the Fifteenth Century; the chancel was finished in 1498; the reredos and the cathedra at its back are also of this period. The whole structure was completed about the year 1500.

During the Reformation all the side altars and images of the saints were swept away, but the beautiful chantry chapels of the Mering and Markham Foundations were preserved. One was erected in memory of Thomas Mering, an eminent citizen of the town, about 1500, and the other is to the memory of Thomas Markham. The latter is notable for having in two of its panels the strange "Dance of Death" that has excited much speculation as to its origin and meaning. This was set up about 1510. Death, represented by a grinning skeleton, is shown posturing before a richly clad gentleman, probably a portrait of Thomas Markham himself. He is shown as a man in the prime of life with his hand resting on his purse, which is suspended from his girdle. The figure of Death has a flower—possibly a carnation —in his hand. The carnation, in the Middle Ages, was the emblem of the shortness of life. The subject of Death dancing in the company of living men was a popular one in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries. Holbein often painted such pictures.

In the Markham panels the figure of the dancing skeleton, with the flower in the right hand, the left pointing to the grave below, exhibits considerable expression; the earnest, thoughtful countenance of the gaily dressed figure of the gentleman suggests the idea of the rich man, engaged in the occupations of a busy life, giving little heed to the

KING JAMES I (1603–1625). *This first of the Stuart monarchs stopped several days in Newark while traveling to London from Scotland to ascend the throne. His Queen also stopped there some time later. King James conferred a new charter on the town and by his expressions of friendship laid the foundation for that loyalty to the Stuarts that was to bear fruit during the tragic career of Charles I. This ornate print is from the original portrait in Hampton Court Palace.*

warnings of mortality. Apart from the symbolic interest of the work it is historical in its delineation of the costume of a gentleman of the early years of the Sixteenth Century.

The chancel screen, of carved oak, is a magnificent example of the wood carver's art of the period. It was the work of one Thomas Drawsward or Drawswerd, and was completed about 1510.

In 1853 restoration was begun under the supervision of Sir Gilbert Scott, a leading architect of the Early Victorian era, and it was completed in 1855. Since that day the Church of St. Mary Magdelene has been as it is at the present time. There are few parish churches in all England of greater beauty and historical interest.

THE painting of the back drop now having been completed, it is possible to continue uninterruptedly the exposition of the Pageant of Newark's dominating figures.

The Middle Ages were for Newark a period of events rather than personalities, but with the dawn of the Tudor period some important figures take the stage. It was a vital time in the history of the town. First of all, it brought to the growing community on the Trent the Battle of Stoke, fought under the eye of the first of the Tudor Kings, Henry VII. It also saw the suppression of the religious houses and the wiping out of the chantries, but the pageant waits and the lesser matters must be disregarded.

Before this time, however, one royal figure crossed the stage. Edward IV visited Newark in 1462 and the town saw some of the military movements engaged in by the adherents of Lancaster and York. In 1471 it almost saw a battle, when the Earl of Oxford, during the troubles of the King with the Earl of Warwick, was at Newark with an army seeking to fall upon the forces of Edward. But the King was ready for him, and Oxford hastily withdrew and Newark was robbed of its battle.

King Richard III was slain in battle in 1485 and the Earl of Richmond ascended the throne as King Henry VII. A great conflict was waged in 1487 almost within sight and sound of Newark, at the village of Stoke, three miles away. There Lambert Simnel, the imposter, who

KING CHARLES I, WHOSE FORTUNES WERE FOLLOWED BY NEWARK, TO ITS GREAT DAMAGE. *From the accession of Charles in 1625 to his execution in 1649 the town was constantly loyal, and at the end was the last of his strongholds. After the Castle had been surrendered to the armies of Cromwell, at the King's order, the ancient pile was almost completely destroyed. Newark's greatest historical importance was attained during this unfortunate monarch's reign. From an old print made from the portrait by Van Dyck.*

impersonated the Duke of York, the murdered son of Edward IV, was captured and the last hope of the House of York was crushed. The rebel army engaged in the battle was under the leadership of the Earl of Lincoln. It took place June 16, 1487, and was a most sanguinary encounter. The Earl was killed, besides many of his leaders, and some 4,000 men were left dead on the field. The King lost heavily, too; some authorities place his losses at nearly 2,000 killed and wounded, so that it was no skirmish. It placed Henry VII securely on his throne.

With the Wars of the Roses of Lancaster and York, that had turned England into a shambles for twenty years, finally ended, the Tudor dynasty was ready to settle down to an interval of peace and progress. The accession of Henry VII definitely put a period to the Middle Ages. In the subsequent nation-wide rejoicings Newark bore its share, and then turned to the business of living. Highways and bridges made almost impassable by floods and constant battles were repaired and made better than ever. Newark became a "thoroughfare town" by reason of its command of the Old North Road and its citizens prospered and grew in numbers. The great religious houses became firmly established, both the Augustinian and Franciscan Friars having flourishing communities. Some of the Friary Houses stand in the town of today.

There are no records of further visits of King Henry VII to Newark after those of the first years of his reign, and it appears that King Henry VIII never visited the place. But one tragic figure did—Cardinal Wolsey—who passed through the town (some declare lodged there) on his last sad journey to the North, after his downfall. He stayed at Southwell for several days, and there he was frequently in consultation with the famous Thomas Magnus, who founded the school in Newark named for him, which is still in existence. Magnus was one of the few friends who remained faithful to the great Cardinal after his disgrace. Only a few months were left to Wolsey, who died at Leicester Abbey in 1530. But his awe-inspiring figure belongs of right in the Newark pageant.

Before the end of Henry VIII's reign all the religious houses of

Newark, its monastic establishments and its chantries were swept away by the Reformation; only those chantries remained that were part of the fabric of the Parish Church. During all the religious troubles Newark stood by the established church, and suffered somewhat for its loyalty; the vicar of St. Mary Magdalene's, Dr. Henry Lytherland, was attainted of high treason and executed. The story of this resolute Vicar would make a chapter in itself; at any rate he gains membership in the pageant, not the least picturesque of its figures.

PRINCE RUPERT, THE GALLANTEST FIGURE DURING THE CIVIL WAR, AND NEPHEW OF KING CHARLES I. *This romantic prince was often in Newark. On one occasion, when reverses in the field had brought him under the displeasure of the King, he broke through the cordon of Parliament troops that surrounded Newark Castle to plead, successfully, his cause before his royal kinsman. One siege of the Castle was raised through his ability and initiative. The most dashing of the King's generals in the field. From an old engraving.*

During the reign of Edward VI Newark Castle, the town and all the Manor adjoining became the property of the Crown and in 1549 the borough was incorporated. The city suffered somewhat from plagues in 1551, 1553 and 1558, and of course the constant religious troubles during the time of Bloody Mary took their toll of death and poverty. But the town kept a bold front to the world, and life went on.

The Great Elizabeth enters the pageant because during her reign Newark obtained a grant of arms, and the original grant, made in 1561, is today one of the town's proudest possessions. Few municipal corporations in England have actual grants of the Sixteenth Century; most of them have disappeared. But Newark's hangs today in the council chamber of the Town Hall. It is on vellum with a brilliantly illuminated border, a miniature of a herald

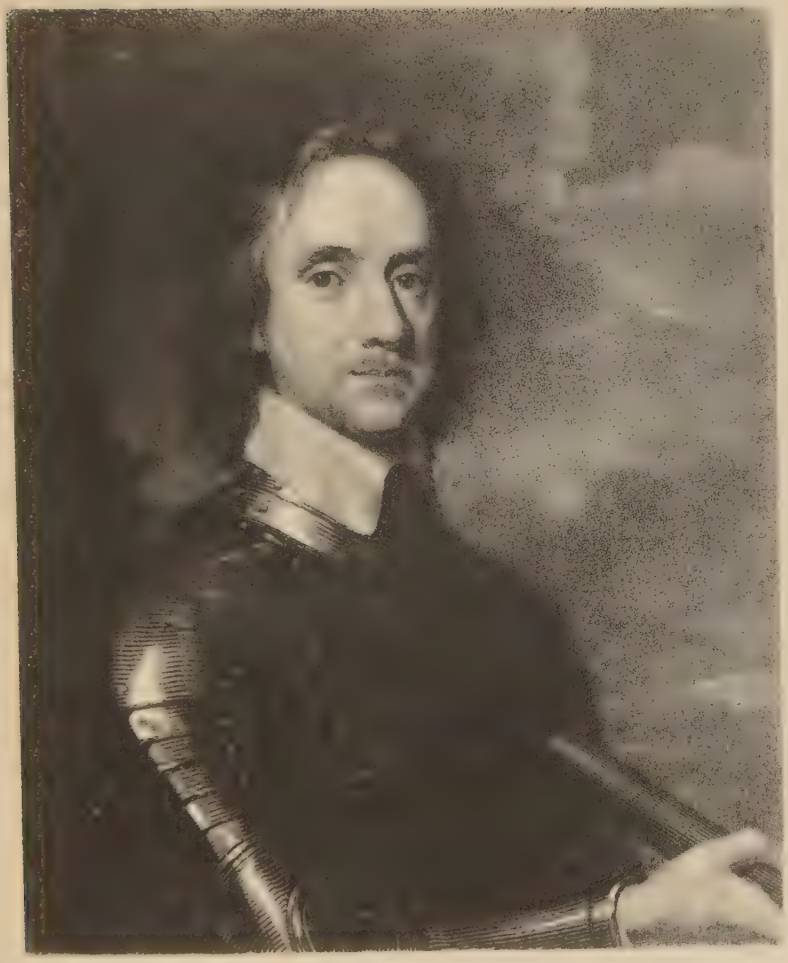
in tabard in the initial letter, and the arms themselves, with crest, supporters and manting, in the proper metals and tinctures, set in the margin. The description of the arms, in the curious language of ancient heraldry, follows:

"Barre wave of sixe, silver and asure, in chief guwles therin a peacocke displayed proper colour, between flower de luce and a lyon passant regardant, gold on the helmet, on a wreath silver and asure a morse silver, beaked sable, therin holding a Ele in proper colour; mantled gules, doubled silver, bottomed gold; the said Armes assisted betwene two supporters, a Otter and a Beaver, both in proper colour, the beaver langued gules".

A wonderful example of old heraldry; no marvel that Newark is proud of it.

During one of the numerous rebellions of the time, Newark was chosen as headquarters by the Earl of Warwick and Lord Clinton, of the Queen's armies, and a battle with a group of disaffected under one Oswald Wilkinson was averted only by the malcontents running away when they saw the array of Royal soldiery. About this time the Castle, having fallen into a state of decay, was leased by Elizabeth to the Earl of Rutland, who made it his home and restored it to its goodly estate.

While all these matters were afoot there was standing in Newark, and had stood for many years, the White Hart Inn, a product of the Fifteenth Century. It is still standing in Newark, although no longer an inn, but a shop. This is the earliest house in the Newark of the present, and one of the finest examples of early Fifteenth Century domestic architecture to be found in all England. In Tudor times there were several important inns in Newark, the number of travellers through the town over the Great North Road necessitating the provision of considerable accommodation. The White Hart is now known as Bainbridge's, but the old inn yard may still be noted in the rear, with its low arched entrance way through which many a traveller on horseback, and many a lumbering coach, clattered through the centuries of its existence. The White Hart must be included in the pageant, if only as part of the scenery.



Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector (1653–1658). *Early in the Civil War, when Cromwell was a colonel of horse, he personally led his men in more than one skirmish with Newark men in which the latter did not fare very well. He was several times within a few miles of the town, but as far as is known, never visited it. Yet the effect of his leadership in the war was so profound that even today he is, for Newarkers, the blackest figure in English history. The townsmen have never forgiven him for ordering the dismantling of the Castle after the entrance of his troops in 1646. Engraving from a portrait in the British Museum.*

Queen Elizabeth died in 1603 after nominating James VI of Scotland as her successor and then began the reign of those Stuarts to whom Newark was to be so faithful, and so ill repaid for her faith. For with the Stuarts marched the ultimate doom of the town. With the disappearance of that ill-omened family Newark itself all but disappeared; in very fact it never was the same afterward.

James I of England, which title the Scots monarch took, is another figure in the pageant, and a picturesque one. On his way to London for his coronation he passed through the town and was royally received. He lodged for a night in the Castle. Alderman John Twentyman was of the committee of welcome and delivered a laudatory address in Latin, which so pleased the pedantic Scots King that he conferred upon him the office of purveyor of wax for the royal household in the County of Notts and three adjoining counties. This probably was a lucrative office at the time. The name persists in Newark until this day. Furthermore, so delighted was the King at Twentyman's evidence of erudition, that he caused the flattered alderman to say his "piece" all over again before His Majesty went on his way. It would appear as though the learned alderman should go in the pageant too, beside his august Sovereign. Later, Queen Anne passed through Newark on her way to join her spouse in London, and was also entertained by the corporation.

King James apparently did not forget the fine time the Newarkers gave him in their town, for a year or so after his visit he gave the borough a new charter, conferring on it additional privileges, among them the power to draft local ordinances.

The King visited Newark four times during his reign—once with his son Henry in 1612, and again in 1614, 1616 and 1617. The Prince died soon afterward of a fever. There is no record of any more Latin orations by Alderman Twentyman.

The King died in 1625 and many Scots lords, among them the Earls of Mar and Melrose, stayed over night in Newark on the way to the funeral in London. So Charles I reigned in his stead, and the great and tragic days of Newark impended over the brave little town and its sturdy Castle.

IN viewing the history of Newark as a whole it appears as though all that has gone before in this brief chronicle has been but a prelude to the great drama that the Civil War brought to its doors; and all that came after that stirring record but epilogue. Although the citizens of the place little knew it, the years that were to follow the accession of Charles were to see the rise of Newark to its greatest historical importance, and to mark its decline to the pleasant obscurity which is its lot today.

SIR JOHN MELDRUM, NICKNAMED "THE OLD DRUM," LEADER OF THE FORCES OF PARLIAMENT THAT UNSUCCESSFULLY BESIEGED NEWARK CASTLE IN 1644. *He was a brave soldier and able commander, but Prince Rupert outwitted him. From a curious old engraving from Ricraft's "Survey of England's Champions" published about 1750.*

The reign of the Martyr King began happily enough as far as Newark was concerned. He gave the town a new and more authoritative charter and the bridge over the Trent, that had fallen into disrepair, was rebuilt and made strong. But matters national were not so good. The King and his Parliament soon were at odds and by 1627 Newark was asked for one of those forced loans King Charles speedily developed the habit of levying. Newark did pretty well by him in the first levy, but as time went on and the demands became more frequent the responses were not so eager.

The King and Queen paid their first visit to Newark in 1634, the first of a series of such visitations that were to end so unhappily. Charles seemed to take a fancy to the town—perhaps he had a prevision of what a large part it was to play in his life. The Queen gave the town a stately river barge for use on great occasions, and the townspeople gave them a celebration. The King was in Newark in 1636, 1638, 1639, 1640 and 1641, so that his visits at this period were almost annual. The Castle, in which he stayed on these occasions, was at the

height of its glory. But the royal visits cost the borough a pot of money, as records still in existence show. One of the contributors to the funds for entertainment was Alderman Hercules Clay, who will be encountered again in this chronicle.

When, in 1642, it was seen that civil war was inevitable, King Charles again came to his loyal borough of Newark and addressed the knights, gentlemen and freeholders of the country roundabout. Newark had been so faithful to him in his troubles with Parliament that His Majesty said: "I go to other places to confirm and undeceive my subjects, but am come hither only to thank and encourage you".

Having cast its lot in with the King, who had raised his standard at Nottingham, Newark made preparations for defense. Soldiers were brought in during the autumn of 1642, earthworks were raised and arms and ammunition collected. From a manuscript account of the local events of the period it seems that the rebels had proposed to make the stronghold of Newark Castle their principal rallying place in the North Midlands, but the Marquis of Newcastle forestalled them by installing a garrison first.

The first brush with the enemy was the defeat, in February, 1643, of a force of Parliament troops that had been ordered to capture the town. The townspeople rose in defense and, although armed with little more than spading forks and spits from the kitchens, sent the invaders flying. At that time Sir John Henderson, a Scotsman, was Governor of the town and led in battle in person. It was a good fight while it lasted.

There were no newspapers in those days, but a number of small quarto pamphlets, or "tracts" were supported by both sides. The King's paper was the "Mercurius Aulicus"; which appeared in Oxford in 1643. Before that the Parliament had the "Weekly Intelligencer", which early in 1642 published abroad the fact that "in Nottinghamshire the Cavalliers doe make a party, having possessed themselves of Newark-upon-Trent, and put 400 men in the Castle, and command the passage there over the river. Col. Henderson commands in chief, the Lord Chaworth, Sir John Digby and divers Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Malignants do flock thither to their assistance. The Town of Nottingham fortifies to oppose the Cavalliers".

In May, 1643, Cromwell himself, then a colonel of horse, was hovering around Newark, and in the brushes of his men with men from Newark he usually got the best of it. The Weekly Intelligencer carried a story about one of these encounters. It said: "From Nottingham it is certified that Colonel Cromwell surprised a great party of the Newark Cavaliers, which is reported to be after this manner. The Colonel, well apprehending the malignancy of the country in some part of Lincolnshire, sent a subtile letter to the chief of them that they would arm themselves and their friends by such a day, to join with 300 of his horse upon a design against the Cavaliers in Grantham. These perfidious countrymen returned a plausible answer to the Colonel that they would fit themselves to join with him, but withal sent notice to Newark of the Colonel's intention, who, laying hold of the advantage, sent out a party of 500 horse to intersept him in his passage upon the day appointed. But the wary Colonel, distrusting the plot, instead of 300 sent out a party of 1,500 horse, and divided them into two divisions, whereof one was but a small party and marched foremost; and when the Newark Cavaliers thought themselves sure of the prize, the Colonel's whole body came upon them and surprised the surprisers, and took most of them". Discounting the fact that this story was told in a Rebel newspaper, there

LORD JOHN BELASYSE, MILITARY COMMANDER OF NEWARK CASTLE DURING THE FINAL DEFENSE. *It was Lord Belasyse who sent to the commissioners of Parliament waiting to receive the surrender of the Castle that stirring defiance which closes with the words: "I desire you to take notice that when I received my commission for the government of this place I annexed my life as a label to my trust." Only the order from his King induced Belasyse to surrender, and then only after being assured that he and his garrison would be accorded all the honors of war. From an old engraving from a portrait by Van Dyck.*

remains that in all likelihood Cromwell took the Cavaliers into camp very neatly.

Newark was a good deal in the news of the day, that summer. There were expeditions to other towns, sorties against the rebels roundabout, and occasionally its artillery took pot shots at the surrounding country. On one of these two Roundheads were killed and another wounded.

Sir John Henderson having been called away to other duty, Sir Richard Byron became Governor of Newark Castle. He held the office until January, 1645. In June, 1643, he received Queen Henrietta Maria on a visit to Newark on her way to the north. During her visit the Queen wrote a letter to the King, dated Newark Castle, which letter is still in existence. She must have been a gracious Queen, for, says a chronicler of her visit: "The courtesy of her behavior brought a great increase to her forces, in so much that she had not arms enough for the men".

In Echards's History of Newark the story is told that as the Queen was about to leave the town, the leaders of the place requested her to stay with them until her forces had taken Nottingham. Her Majesty replied that she was under the command of the King, and was going to march elsewhere by his orders, but "that at the same time she lamented not being able to comply with their request, she rejoiced in being able to set them an example of obedience to their husbands". So Queen Henrietta Maria wins a place in the pageant—by acclamation. Poor Queen, she was to know Newark again under less happy circumstances!

A short time later Sir Charles Cavendish, who had been one of the gentry to welcome the Queen to Newark, went out to meet Cromwell's men in a fight near Gainsborough—and was killed. Thomas Carlyle says of this event that it was the first action that made Cromwell an important figure in the Civil War fighting. The body of Cavendish lay in state in Newark Castle; soon afterward a party from Newark went out and inflicted considerable losses on the rebels.

By this time the fortifications of Newark had been made very strong, and the garrison was well supplied. There were about 5,000

foot soldiers and 500 horsemen permanently in residence, and all the townsmen who were able to bear arms did so. The walls were in good condition, the four gates were well guarded, and it had a sufficient supply of artillery. So that Newark was a military center, and its men were often called upon to give assistance to other places not so well circumstanced. During the winter of 1643-1644 several such incidents occurred.

JOHN CLEVELAND, THE POET OF THE ROYALIST SIDE IN THE REVOLUTION. *It was Cleveland who drafted the famous answer to the summons to surrender the Castle. He was acting as judge-advocate to the garrison at the time. He subsequently suffered imprisonment for his loyalty to King Charles I, but was freed by Cromwell as the result of a manly letter addressed to the Lord Protector. He published a number of poems, mainly political in character. He was a friend of Samuel Butler, author of "Hudibras," and is said to have influenced some of the latter's work.*

So pernicious had the Newark men become by January, 1644, that the rebels felt it was time to capture Newark, and so do away for all time with the menace. Accordingly, a determined attack was organized under Sir John Meldrum, a Scots soldier who had served in the wars in the Low Countries and was an able commander. By the end of 1644 about 8,500 men, with powerful artillery, confronted the town. It seemed as though the town were in evil case.

But the King sent for his nephew, the brilliant and dashing Prince Rupert, asking him to attempt the relief of Newark. Prince Rupert did just as he was asked. He rushed his men to the scene of the intended assault and was within six miles of the Roundheads before they had any idea he was in the neighborhood. He charged some of their horse and pursued them with such vigor that

he was upon their own entrenchments before they could stop him. In alarm the Roundheads asked for terms, and were allowed to depart, stripped of all their artillery, firearms and ammunition. It was almost a complete rout.

There is an account of this first formal siege of Newark during the Civil War written by an eye witness. He writes: "I was in at all the siege. They shot, after thay had formed their leaguer, thirteen pieces of ordnance and two bomb balls, every night, about 12 and 1 o'clock. Prince Rupert came and raised the siege. I saw the engagement from the pinnacles of our steeple. (The Parish Church). They of the Parliament drew up their horse into one main body, with two wings, under the brow of Beacon Hill. Against the place where the Spittal stood, and where all their infantry were ensconsed, they had a bridge of boats over the Trent. The Prince charged one wing, coming with fury upon them from Coddington, and after the charge both retired that wing to the main body, and the Prince with his up the hill. Presently he came down upon the other wing, and they did as before on both sides. Upon the third assault, the Prince, coming up with his whole body upon theirs, totally routed them and fell so in with them they made a length from the Hill to the Spittal. There the horse would have broken into their own foot, but they shot to keep them out, and many fled over the bridge of boats. All would have gone, but they were forced to stay some that they might make a better composition for themselves, and so leaving all their arms behind they marched away.

Coins Minted in the Castle During the Siege of 1646 *from silver contributed in plate by the noblemen and gentlemen of the district. Now in the Museum at Newark-on-Trent.*

A

# LETTER

TO

The Honoble *William Lenthal* Esq;

Speaker to the Honorable House of Commons,

From the

# COMMISSIONERS

Imployed by the PARLIAMENT

For the Reducing of

# NEWARK:

Together with

The SUMMONS of the Commissioners of both Kingdoms to the Governour, for delivering up of the said Town for the use of the KING and PARLIAMENT.

And the Governours ANSWER thereunto.

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*Appointed by the Honorable* William Lenthal *Esq; Speaker to the Honorable House of Commons, to be forthwith printed and published.*

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London: Printed for EDW. HUSBAND, Printer to the Honorable House of Commons. April 6. 1646.

THE STORY OF THE SURRENDER AS IT WAS TOLD AT THE TIME. *Title page of curious pamphlet of contemporary date describing the incidents of the demand on the commander and his spirited reply.*

Thus the Lord delivered us this time also". Even from the ancient phraseology there peeps a good narrative of what happened. Incidentally, the rebel losses in war material were 4,000 muskets, eleven pieces of brass ordnance, two mortars, and about fifty barrels of gunpowder. The garrison put them all to good use, it may be surmised.

At the time of this signal victory, Prince Rupert was only twenty-five years old. In a letter to him the King called it a "beyond imaginable success" and "no less than a saving of the North".

It was during this siege that Hercules Clay, a prominent citizen and a member of the town corporation, had his remarkable escape from death. He died naturally the very next year, but he left a thank offering in his will of 100 pounds to the vicar to preach every year a sermon on his escape, and another 100 pounds to establish a fund for the poor of the town. Both bequests are in force to this day. But this is what happened to the doughty alderman, as related by one Dickinson, a contemporary:

"One Clay, a tradesman of eminence in the Market Square, dreamed three successive times that his house was in flames. At the conclusion of the last dream, he got up much confused, and caused his whole family to leave the house, very soon after which a bomb from Beacon Hill fell on the house and set it on fire, passing through every floor". In his will Clay referred to his miraculous preservation from "a terrible blow from a granado".

Sir John Meldrum lost his life less than a year later at the siege of Scarborough Castle.

Naturally the garrison and townsmen of Newark were greatly heartened by their decisive victory, and the King himself was unsparing in their praise. Mrs. Hutchinson, wife of Colonel John Hutchinson, who was the commander of the garrison at Nottingham, and a brave soldier of whom more will be heard, noted in her history of these stirring times that "the enemy at Newark was very much exalted, and by the quitting of so many Parliament garrisons about them, increased in power; and were left at leisure to turn all their designs against Nottingham, which, being so infirm within itself, the Governor had a very difficult task to preserve".

About this time Sir Richard Willis succeeded Sir Richard Byron as Governor of Newark Castle, and he was shortly called upon to face what seemed for a time to portend another siege. The Earl of Manchester, at the head of a Parliament army, was in Yorkshire, and turned his forces toward Newark. The Court Mercury, a Parliament news letter, printed under date of August 23, 1644, reported: "We have received intelligence that some of the Earl of Manchester's forces were before Newark on Monday last, and that the enemy issued forth, but were bravely beaten in again with much loss, and that the Earl of Manchester with more forces is advancing towards them". For some reason, however, the Earl did not continue the advance, to the great displeasure of Lieutenant General Cromwell, so the Earl was sent to other fields of activity. As a consequence of the mischance Newark escaped, for a time, a second siege. But that it was "straitened", as a contemporary chronicle describes its condition, seems indisputable. The dashing raids and sorties were suspended.

KING CHARLES II (1660-1685). *By charter given by this monarch in 1667 Newark became a free borough with two representatives in Parliament. There is no record of his ever having visited the town.*

But Newark continued to be a hard nut for the Parliament armies to crack. Lord Fairfax, reporting to the rebel headquarters as to the Castle and garrison wrote: "Newark is the only considerable Royalist garrison in this part of the Kingdom, and the receptacle of all flying forces", and pointed out that it was "very strong, well manned, and provided for divers months".

As a matter of fact, from the bits of records preserved from this

time—mostly written from the Parliament point of view—it appears that the duty of Newark and its garrison was, during the winter and spring of 1644-1645, to be a constant thorn in the flesh of Parliament. It seemed too strong to reduce by attack, and its soldiers were constantly dashing out to inflict damage on the forces of Parliament stationed round about. Several such skirmishes got into print.

But, on June 14, 1645, the battle of Naseby was fought, and the cause of the King received a body blow. It was the beginning of the end for Charles, but the loyal Newarkers refused to believe it. To Newark many dusty and dispirited soldiers rode from that fatal field. It was the strongest place left to the King's army.

It had to be taken. So in August, 1645, the Parliament passed an ordinance "for the speedy raising of money in the Eastern Association and other adjacent counties, for the maintenance of the forces to be employed in reducing the garrison of Newark", and considerable sums were levied. The King marched Newark-ward with a force of about 3,000 mounted men, reaching there August 21. He and his army left the next day, going to Huntingdon. By October 4 he was back again, and was joyfully received by the town and soldiery. But he was fighting a losing fight, and he knew it. From Newark he sent letters to trusted supporters in other parts of the kingdom begging them to send help. One of these letters fell into the hands of Parliament. News arriving that the Earl of Montrose, who was a Royalist adherent, had won a battle from a Scots parliamentary army, King Charles left Newark after a stay of ten days, to effect a junction with the Earl's forces. But he learned, to his dismay, there was no truth in the story, so he returned to Newark. Lord John Digby, another Royalist general, had also met disaster in the field, so the King, with his enemies forming a ring about him, decided to fall back on Oxford for greater security. But before they could get away he was forced to undergo something approaching humiliation. This episode is so closely bound up with the history of Newark that some space will be devoted to it.

Prince Rupert, the hero of the raising of the first siege of Newark, had met with defeat at Bristol, and the King was very angry at him, going so far as to allege "gross dereliction of duty" against his nephew.

The high spirited Prince could not brook such condemnation without a hearing, so he determined to visit the King at Newark and plead his own cause. With his brother, Prince Maurice, and about 120 picked officers he arrived at Belvoir Castle—fighting a detachment of General Rossiter's Parliament troops on the way. When the King heard that Prince Rupert was at Belvoir he sent word to his nephew to stay there, but the Prince came on to Newark, where he stayed at the Governor's House,—which house, by the way, is still standing in Newark, in an excellent state of preservation. Writes Lord Clarendon, in a vivid account of the incident:

PRINCE CHARLES EDWARD STUART, "BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE," THE YOUNG PRETENDER. *There is a tradition that this romantic Prince passed through Newark in 1745, shortly before, or just after, the Battle of Culloden. It is said that his troops were regaled with cakes and ale by the citizens, which would not be extraordinary in view of the town's unwavering devotion to the Stuarts.*

"About an hour after, with his train, he came to the Court and found the King in the presence, and without ceremony told his Majesty that he was come to render an account of the loss of Bristol, and to clear himself of those imputations that had been cast upon him. The King said very little to him, but meat being brought up, went to supper, and during that time asked some questions of Prince Maurice without saying anything to the other. After he had supped he retired to his chamber without admitting any further discourse, and the Prince returned to the Governor's house, where he was well treated and lodged.

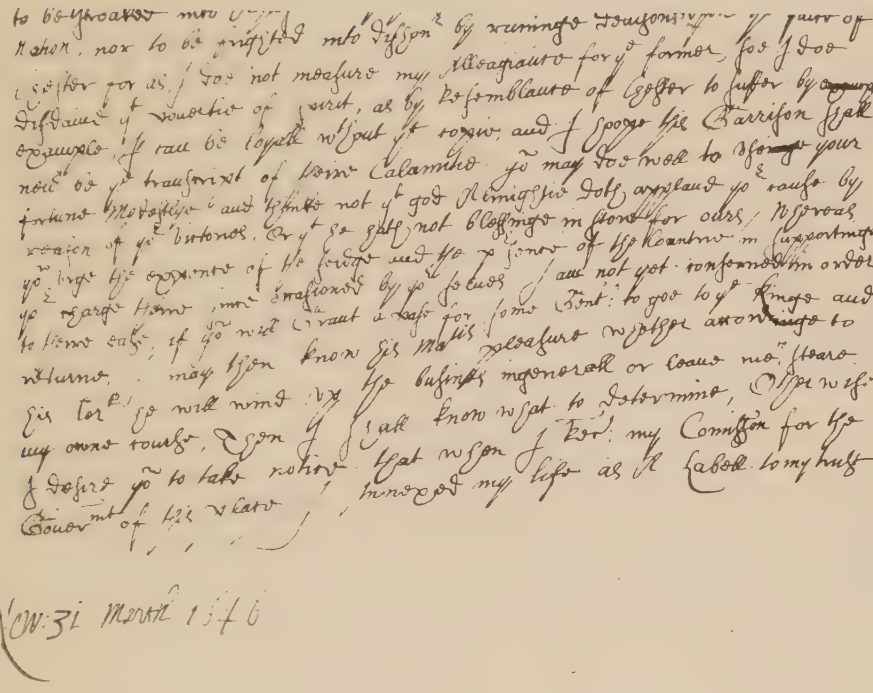
"The King, how displeased soever, thought it necessary to hear what Prince Rupert would say, that he might with the more ease provide for his escape from thence, which it was high time to make. So he appointed the next day to hear his defense, which the Prince made with many protestations of innocence, and how impossible it was to

defend the fort after the line was entered. His Majesty did not suspect his nephew to have any malicious design against his service, and had no mind to aggravate any circumstance which accompanied that action, and therefore after a day or two's debate, caused a short declaration to be drawn up by which Prince Rupert was absolved and cleared from any disloyalty or treason in the rendering of Bristol, but not of indiscretion".

The differences, however, did not end here. The Governor and the Commissioners were on such bad terms that the King thought it wise to remove the Governor from his office, and sending for him offered to make him captain of his horse guards, at the same time telling him that he proposed to leave Lord Belasyse Governor of Newark, "who being allied to most of the gentlemen of the adjacent counties, and having a good estate there, would be more acceptable to them".

Sir Richard Willis was much troubled, and said his enemies would triumph at his removal, to which the King replied that a man could not be looked upon as disgraced who was placed so near his person. "So his Majesty went out of his chamber, and presently to the church. When he returned from thence he sat down to dinner, the Lords and other of his servants repairing likewise to their lodgings. Before the King had dined, Sir Richard Willis, with both the Princes, the Lord Gerard, and about twenty officers of the garrison, entered into the presence chamber.

"Willis addressed himself to the King, and told him that what his Majesty had said to him in private was now the public talk of the town, and very much to his dishonor. Prince Rupert said that Sir Richard was to be removed from his government for no fault that he had committed, but for being his (Prince Rupert's) friend, and the Lord Gerard added that it was the plot of Lord Digby, who was a traitor, and he would prove him so. The King was so surprised with this manner of behavior that he rose in some disorder from the table, and would have gone into his bedchamber, calling to Sir Richard Willis to follow him, who answered aloud that he had received a public injury, and therefore expected a public satisfaction. This, with what passed before, so provoked his Majesty that with greater indignation



THE ANSWER BY LORD BELASYSE TO THE DEMAND OF THE PARLIAMENT LEADERS TO SURRENDER NEWARK CASTLE. *The original of this remarkable document is in the possession of the Free Public Library of Newark, New Jersey, the gift of the authorities of the Public Library of Newark-on-Trent. It is in the handwriting of John Cleveland, the poet—judge advocate of the besieged garrison. It is addressed to the "Committee of Both Kingdoms" (England and Scotland), and closes with the memorable words: "When I received my commission for the government of this place I annexed my life as a label to my trust." It is dated Newark, March 31, 1646.*

than he was ever seen possessed with, he commanded them to depart from his presence.

"The next morning passes were sent to them, and in the afternoon they left town, being in all about two hundred horses, and went to Wiverton, where they stayed some days, and thence to Belvoir Castle".

Pepys tells a somewhat different story. In his Diary he notes, about that time: "My Lord Belasyse told us how the King, having newly put out Prince Rupert of his generalship, upon some miscarriage at Bristol, and Sir Richard Willis from his governorship of Newark, at the entreaties of the gentry of the country, and put in My Lord Belasyse, the great officers of the King's army mutinied, and came in that manner with drawn swords into the Market place of that town, where the King was; whereupon the King said, 'I must horse!' and there himself personally, when everybody expected they should be opposed, the King came and cried to the head of the mutineers, which was Prince Rupert, 'Nephew, I command you begone'. So the Prince in all his fury and discontent withdrew, his company scattered, and shortly after left town, the King looking out of the window and weeping to see them as they went".

During the Governorship of Sir Richard Willis there came to Newark Castle an interesting and picturesque figure whose fame was to be closely tied in with the most glorious days of the stronghold. This was John Cleveland; or, as the name properly should be spelled, Cleiveland. He was a Cambridge fellow ejected from his collegiate employment by the exigencies of war, a Royalist poet and satirist of considerable talent, although of comparatively humble origin. When he took refuge with the King at Oxford he was detailed to service in Newark Castle as judge advocate and remained there until after the surrender. His duties being light, he devoted much of his time to political verse of a sprightly character, and made up with his scholarship some of that lacked by the Governors with whom he served.

Cleveland was a rather unusual person. He was born in 1613 in Loughborough, in Yorkshire, the son of Thomas Cleveland, who was a poor usher in a charity school. The boy proved studious and was taken in hand by Rev. Richard Vynes, the "Luther of the Presby-

THE OLD CATTLE MARKET IN THE CASTLE GROUNDS. *This market existed from early days up to the opening of the Gilstrap Public Library in 1883. Then it was felt that a cattle market in such close proximity to the library and castle ruins was out of place. A company was formed and a new market opened on the other side of the river, in 1886. Today the site is beautified by gardens.*

terians", as he was called, who gave him such an excellent classical education that he was admitted to Cambridge at the age of fifteen and took all the higher degrees, including those for both law and medicine. He lived at Cambridge nine years. One of his orations, addressed to Charles I on a visit to the university in 1641, so pleased the King he sent for Cleveland and gave him his hand to kiss. When Cromwell was a candidate for the Cambridge seat in the Long Parliament, Cleveland opposed him. This was not forgotten by Cromwell in later years.

After Cleveland went to Newark the Parliament organ, the Intelligencer, mentioned before, published in 1645, the following: "But to speak of our friend Cleveland, that grand Malignant of Cambridge, we hear that now he is at Newark, where he hath the title of advocate

put upon him. His office and employment is to gather all college rents within the power of the King's forces in those parts, which he distributes to such as are turned out of their fellowships at Cambridge for their malignancy". As a matter of fact, Cleveland was highly commended by his superiors for his skillful and upright conduct of a difficult office at such a critical time. He was a man of jovial spirits, with a quick wit and an excellent turn for stinging, satiric verse. Not many of his political poems have survived, and such as have come down need the political background of the times to be entirely intelligible. Probably one of the most spirited of his compositions was not a poem at all, but the famous reply of Lord Belasyse to the demand by the Parliament Party for the surrender of the Castle, of which more later.

Cleveland never forgave the Scots for their treachery to King Charles and wrote a memorable poem, "The Rebel Scot", that was not forgiven in the North for many a long year. It is a terrific thing, for invective almost unparalleled. The last verse will stand quoting:

*Lord! what a godly thing is want of Shirts!*
*How a Scotch Stomach and no Meat converts!*
*They wanted Food and Rayment; so they took*
*Religion for their Seamstress, and their Cook.*
*Unmask them well, their Honours and Estate,*
*As well as Conscience, are sophisticate.*
*Shrive but their Title and their Moneys poize,*
*A Laird and twenty pence pronounc'd with noise,*
*When constru'd but for a plain Yeoman go,*
*And a good sober two pence, and well so.*
*Hence then you proud Imposters, get you gone,*
*You Picts in Gentry and Devotion.*
*You Scandal to the Stock of Verse, a Race*
*Able to bring the Gibbet in disgrace.*
*Hyperbolus by suffering did traduce*
*The Ostracism, and sham'd it out of use.*
*The Indian that Heaven did forswear,*
*Because he heard some Spaniards were there;*

NEWARK CASTLE FROM THE SOUTHWEST, SHOWING THE OLD BRIDGE. *From a drawing made by W. P. Sharlock in 1801 and engraved by S. Sparrow.*

*Had he but known what Scots in Hell had been,*
*He would Erasmus-like have hung between.*
*My Muse hath done. A Voyder for the nonce,*
*I wrong the Devil should I pick their Bones;*
*That dish is his; for when the Scots decease*
*Hell like their Nation, feeds of Bernacles.*
*A Scot when from the Gallow-tree got loose*
*Drops into Styx, and turns a Seland Goose.*

Many poems were attributed to Cleveland which he did not write, but his style was attractive to imitators, so he suffered much undeserved blame. The surrender of the Castle threw him out of all employment and he became practically destitute. He went to London and became the companion and friend of Samuel Butler of "Hudibras" fame. In 1655 he was suspected of treason to the Commonwealth and was imprisoned. After being in prison three months he wrote a letter to Cromwell, which showed neither servility nor arrogance. In an excellent copy of the poet's complete works, published in London in 1687, and now in the possession of the Newark (New Jersey) Free Public Library, this letter is given at length. It is so characteristic of the time, and of the writer, that it is here reprinted:

"To the Protector after long and vile Durance in Prison.

"*May it please Your Highness:*

"Rulers within the Circle of their Government have a Claim to that which is said of the Deity; they have their Center everywhere, and their Circumference is no where. It is in this Confidence that I address to your Highness, knowing that no place in the Nation is so remote, as not to share in the Ubiquity of your Care; no Prison so close as to shut me up from partaking of your Influence.

"My Lord, it is my Misfortune, that after ten years Retirement from being engaged in the Differences of the State, having wound up myself in private Recess, and my Comportment to the Publick so inoffensive, that in all this time, neither Fears nor Jealousies have scrupled at my actions.

The Keynote of Newark-on-Trent—The Castle. *These majestic ruins with the gateway tower, fine oriel and still sturdy walls and towers are what the present time has to show for what once was one of Britain's strongholds. It was founded by Bishop Alexander of Lincoln about 1130, and it therefore is nearly* (1927) *eight hundred years old. It is a Norman work of considerable splendor. In its original ground plan it probably was square. The remaining West wall with its hexagonal tower was built some time in the Thirteenth Century. The oriel window dates from the Fifteenth Century, probably about 1470. During the civil wars the Castle played a conspicuous part. It withstood three sieges and never was taken by assault. In 1646 it was surrendered to the armies of Cromwell by order of King Charles I and so much was it respected by the conquerors it was dismantled and almost destroyed so that it never again could be a menace to the Commonwealth. In this building Kings, Queens and some of the greatest figures in English history were guests often; King John died within its walls, and from it Cardinal Wolsey set out upon his last journey. Its history is the history of the town during its most important years; after its destruction Newark became a place of little historic importance. The river in the foreground is a branch of the Trent.*

"Being about three Months since at Norwich, I was fetch'd by a Guard before the Commissioners, and sent Prisoner to Yarmouth, and if it be not a new offence to make an enquiry wherein I offended (for hitherto my Fault was kept as close as my Person) I am induced to believe, that next to my Adherence to the Royal Party, the Cause of my Confinement is the Narrowness of my Estate; for none stand committed whose Estate can bail them. I only am the Prisoner who have no Acres to be my Hostage. Now if my Poverty be Criminal (with Reverence be it spoken) I implead your Highness, whose Victorious Arms have reduced me to it, as Accessory to my Guilt. Let it suffice, my Lord, that the Calamity of the War hath made us poor, do not punish us for it. Whoever did Penance for being Ravished; Is it not enough that we are strip'd so bare, but must it be made in order to a severer Lash? Must our Sores be engraven with our Wounds? Must we first be made Creeples, and then beaten with our own Crutches? Poverty, if it be a Fault, 'tis its own Punishment, who pays more for it, pays use upon use.

"I beseech your Highness, put some Bounds to the Overthrow, and do not pursue the chase to the other World. Can your Thunder be levell'd so low, as our Grovelling Condition? Can your Towering Spirit, which hath quarried upon Kingdoms make a stoop at us, who are the Rubbish of these Ruins? Methinks I hear your former Atchievements interceding with you, not too fully your Glories with trampling upon the Prostrate nor clog the Wheel of your Chariot with so degenerous a Triumph. The most renowned Heroe's have ever with such Tenderness cherished their captives, that their Swords did but cut out work for their Courtesies. Those that fell by their Prowess sprung by their Favour, as if they had struck them down, only to make them rebound the higher. I hope your Highness, as you are the Rival of their Fame, will be no less of their Virtues. The Nobless Trophy that you can erect to your Honour, is to raise the Afflicted; and since you have subdued all Opposition, it now remains that you attack yourself, and with the Acts of Mildness vanquish your Victory. It is not long since, my Lord, that you knock'd off the Shackles from most of your Party, and by a grand Release did spread your Clemency as far as your Territories.

A Portion of the Crypt Beneath Newark Castle. *This crypt extends under a part of the Great Hall, from about the central tower to a point below the oriel window. It has been found difficult to assign a date to this work, but it probably was constructed in the time of Bishop Alexander (about 1130). The vaulting is distinctly of Norman character.*

"Let not new Proscriptions interrupt your Jubilee. Let not that your Lenity be slandered as the Ambush of your farther Rigour. For the Service of his Majesty (if it be objected) I am so far from excusing it, that I am ready to allege it in my Vindication. I can not conceit that my Fidelity to my Prince should taint me in your Opinion, I should rather expect it should recommend me to your Favour. Had we not been Faithful to our King, we could not have given our selves to be so to your Highness; you had then trusted us gratis, whereas now we have our former Loyalty to vouch us. You see, my Lord, how much I presume upon the Greatness of your Spirit, that dare prevent my Indictment with so frank a Confession, especially in this which I may

so safely deny, that it is almost Arrogancy in me to own it: For the Truth is, I was not qualified enough to serve Him: All I could do was to bear a part in His sufferings, and to give myself to be Crushed with his Fall.

"Thus my charge is doubled; my Obedience to my Sovereign, and what is the Result of that, my want of Fortune. Now whatever reflection I have upon the former, I am a true Penitent for the latter. My Lord, you see my Crimes; as to my Defence you bear it about you. I shall plead nothing in my Justification, but your Highness's Clemency, which as it is the constant Inmate of a valiant Breast, if you graciously be pleased to extend it to your Suppliant, in taking me out of this withering Durance, your Highness will find, that Mercy will establish you more than Power, though all the days of your Life, were as pregnant with Victories as your twice auspicious third of September.

Your Highness's

*Humble and Submissive Petitioner*

J. C."

Cromwell liked the tone of this letter, and gave Cleveland his freedom. After that the poet lived a retired life, eking out his income from his poems by teaching. Before 1656 a small volume, "Poems by J. C.", was rather extensively circulated. He went to live at Gray's Inn, where he died in 1658. The Dictionary of National Biography (British) says of him:

"His printed works may fail to sustain his former reputation in the opinion of those who can not make allowance for their evanescent or ephemeral character. His influence on Samuel Butler is not difficult to trace. Aubrey writes: 'That great poet has condescended to imitate or copy Cleveland in more instances than occurred to Dr. Grey in his notes on "Hudibras". Those who fail to recognize the genius of Samuel Butler are naturally blind to the merits of Cleveland, whom Eachard styles 'the first poetic champion of the King'".

The Font in the Parish Church as it Was Before the Present Canopy Cover Was Put in Use, in 1891. *This font originally was constructed in the Fifteenth Century, to which period the lower part belongs. It bears the inscription: "Carne Rei Nate Sunt Hoc Deo Fonti Renate." A neighboring inscription tells: "This font was demolished by the Rebels (the bowl only was broken) May 9, 1646, and rebuilt by the charity of Nicholas Ridley, 1660." A fresh bowl was substituted with sixteen figures on the eight sides of the shaft. From a photographic reproduction of a drawing made by J. D. Curtis. Published by Sherwood & Co. in 1823.*

BUT it is time to get back to Newark Castle and its troubles. After Sir Richard Willis was sent away in a sort of sugared disgrace, Lord Belasyse took command as Governor, and the clouds began to gather about the devoted "Stronghold of the North". It was the last stronghold King Charles had, and he took refuge in it whenever he could. Both his princely nephews, Rupert and Maurice, left his following and departed overseas, along with Gerard and Lord Hawley. So the bright figure of Prince Rupert leaves the scene; but that he won a place in the Newark Pageant goes without saying.

LORD BELASYSE, the new Governor, was a man of great resolution of character and personal bravery. He had taken an active part in the Civil War from its commencement, and as he had family associations with Newark he was a popular Governor.

The Parliamentary forces, by October, 1645, were making careful preparations for the final siege of Newark. A proclamation drawn up by the Committee of Both Kingdoms, and sent to all official bodies adjacent to Newark, reads, in part: "The King is still in Newark, where he is watchfully blocked up, and with a sufficient number of foot added expeditiously, the reducing of that place might be an enterprise very feasible, the garrison being not very numerous, and great discontent prevailing amongst them". This latter does not seem to ring true, as the "discontented" garrison made all efforts to present an implacable front to the besiegers, and it was to be many months before they were conquered—and then only by their own King's weakness of character.

By November of 1645 the King was ready to abandon the comparative safety of Newark for the livelier atmosphere of Oxford, for which he had a fondness. Clarendon describes the King's departure as follows: "Order was given that all should be ready in the Market Place at ten o'clock at night. (Nov. 3) By that time the horse were called there, and were in number between 400 and 500 of the Guards and of other loose regiments; they were all there put in order, and every man was placed in some troop; which done, about eleven o'clock they began to march; the King himself at the head of his own troop

NEWARK CHURCH FROM THE NORTHEAST. *From a drawing made by W. P. Sharlock in 1801, engraved by S. Sparrow, and published by Hage, in Newark, in 1805.*

marched in the middle of the whole body. * * * * By three o'clock in the morning they were at Belvoir". Thus did King Charles leave behind him for the last time the brave town that had stood his friend through thick and thin and was about to make the ultimate sacrifice to his fortunes.

A great and hostile gathering soon surrounded Newark. The Parliament was in no mood for further paltering. With the King practically in flight before their armies, and but one more stronghold to reduce to be victorious in every quarter, plans were completed for a siege of Newark Castle that this time would not fail. Two armies, one English and the other Scotch, gradually were concentrated about Newark. On the other hand, Lord Belasyse and his devoted garrison made ready to withstand whatever might betide. An old manuscript in the possession of the Newark corporation of today says: "It was well defended with men, arms, ammunition and artillery, besides strong bastions, earthworks, half-moons, counterscarps, redoubts, pitfalls and an impregnable line of earth and turf palisaded and stockaded, and every part so furnished with great guns and cannon that this bulky bulwark of Newark represented to the besiegers one entire sconce, and the two Royal forts formidable flankers; nor was there a tree to hinder the prospect". A sconce was a strong fortification protecting a castle outside the walls.

The time was winter, and a very severe one. The Parliament sent a special joint committee of English and Scots commissioners to direct operations, headed by the Earl of Rutland. Though so closely invested, the Newark defenders made many desperate and successful sallies to provide themselves with food and other necessaries. In November a writer on the side of the besiegers made this naive complaint:

"The Newark forces endeavored, with all possible diligence and the exercise of violence and cruelty, to fetch all the provisions they could out of the country into that garrison, carrying away as prisoners many of the chief men out of those towns where they had not paid all their taxes and arrears".

Both besieged and besiegers were straitened for money to carry on

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, FROM THE WEST, AS IT LOOKS TODAY, INCLUDING PART OF KIRK GATE. *This church, a fine example of perpendicular Gothic, stands on the site of an earlier Saxon edifice, which was in existence for probably one hundred years after the Norman Conquest. Robert de Chesney, Bishop of Lincoln, planned the second church about 1180, some parts of which still remain as portions of the four piers forming the cross of nave, choir and transepts. The present structure is 222 feet in length, the choir is 64 feet long, and the chancel, 89 feet. The square tower was built in 1230. The final stage, with its octagonal spire 252 feet in height, was added from 1320 to 1330. The Black Death stopped the work from 1349 to 1390. The north aisle was completed before 1480 and the whole chancel by 1498. The church was restored by Sir Gilbert Scott, 1853-1855.*

the operations. The committee before Newark constantly asked Parliament for more and more funds. But the opening of the year 1646 found the gallant garrison holding out as boldly as ever. There were constant encounters while the opponents faced each other. One such spirited engagement may be taken as a sample of others. In a curious old pamphlet printed in March, 1646, in London the following account, written from the Parliament side, gives a clear picture of the fight. It embodies a dispatch sent from the field as of March 5 and states: "The Newarkers lately attempted with a great deal of resolution, coming up to the works even unto push of pike; and if the Scots had not been stout and resolute foot, * * * * if it had fortuned any other regiment to be there in their stead, it is feared that they would scarce have done so well. They were extremely overpowered with numbers. Now all men may see (that which some have not heretofore beleeved) that Newark is a considerable garrison to the King, seeing that they can spare such a number for a sally and be able to keep the towne and works besides". The phrase "unto push of pike" indicates that the fight was a hand-to-hand affair.

After the besiegers had held a "Day of Prayer" at Balderton, a few miles from Newark, the committee in charge of the siege endeavored to intimidate the besieged garrison by the dispatch of a letter, or summons, demanding the surrender of the Castle, dated Balderton, March 28, 1646. It is a curious document, and reads as follows:

"We the Committee of Both Kingdoms being sent and authorized to use our best Endeavours for the reducing of the Town and Garrison of Newark; do hereby (in the Name of Both Houses of the Parliament of England, and for the use of the King and Parliament) demand of you, That you forthwith surrender the same into their hands: it is the pious care of the Parliament, to prevent the effusion of Christian blood, the wasting of the Country, and the destruction of Towns.

"We shall esteem ourselves happy in being Instruments to avert those miseries; and shall therefore grant to you, the Gentlemen with you, and the Town, Honorable and fair Conditions; which if you shall now neglect, and will let nothing but experimental sufferings declare unto you your unavoidable ruine, You are to give an accompt to God,

West End of the Chancel of the Parish Church As It Looks Today, *showing rood screen, the Atkinson and Ramsey mortuary monuments, and some of the choir stalls. This fine example of wood carving was executed by Thomas Drawswerd of York about 1510. The Drawswerd family were famous wood carvers in the early part of the Sixteenth Century.*

to this present age, and to posterity, for all the blood that shall from henceforth be shed, for the wasting your Native and neighboring Counties, and destruction of so considerable a place: You may not, nor can any in reason expect (and most assuredly on the faith of honest men, you shall not hereafter obtain from us) such terms as we are now willing to afford you.

"We sent no Summons until you and all with you might see, we were able by force to attain what we much rather desire by Treaty; the Parliament have 16,000 Horse and Foot at present before your Town, Souldiers of Experience, United, and in Health and Courage; This is no way mentioned, as if we trusted in the Arm of Flesh (God the Lord of Hosts hath manifested, that we fight his Battels) but to shew you the vast expences which will be occasioned by the continuance of the Siege (for which your Estates must answer) and that your holding out may not further tempt the Almighty: And though you should not regard your own ruine, though some others should be of that your opinion, shall yet that wealthy Town be sacked, and others perish with you that see their own misery and would avoide it? A Prudent man, a Souldier cannot live or die in reputation or peace of Spirit, to maintain a place not so long tenable, as till it can be relieved, of which you can not have the least hope: Flatter not yourselves, relief is not to be had; Chester was neerer Succours, and con-

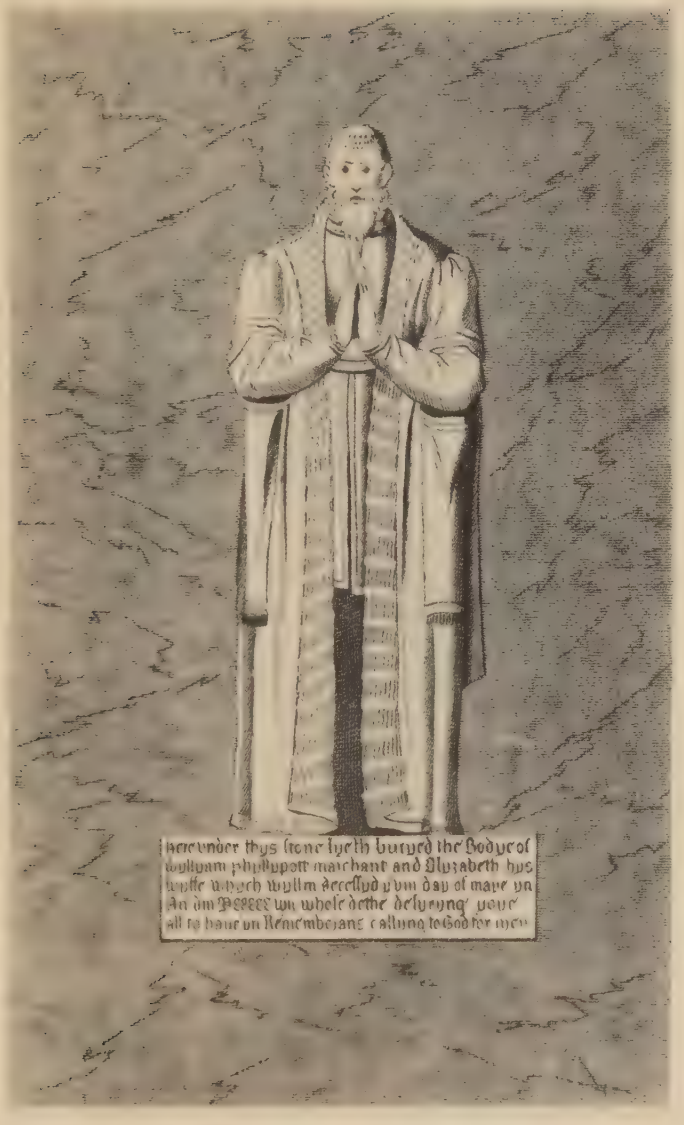
The Alan Fleming Brass in the Parish Church. *This memorial to a Newark merchant is on the west wall of the south transept. It measures nine feet four inches by five feet seven inches and practically the whole of this surface is covered with magnificent carving. The plate is composed of sixteen pieces of metal each about two feet six inches in size. Fleming is represented in the attire of a civilian of the time—the latter half of the Fourteenth Century—the long tunic with tight sleeves having lappets lined with fur. A cape covers the shoulders. His hair is curly. The figure stands beneath a rich and ornate triple canopy surmounted by tabernacle work containing representations of Abraham's Bosom, the soul of the departed in a winding sheet; on one side is the figure of St. Peter pointing to the keys of Heaven and Hell which he holds. Above the head is a starry firmament. The shafts which support the canopy contain a double row of niches with figures of mourners in various costumes. The inscription on the verge runs thus: "Here lies Alan Fleming, who died in the year 1361, on the Day of St. Helena, may his soul rest in peace by the mercy of God. Amen. 'I know that my Redeemer liveth and that I shall rise up on the Last Day and shall again be clothed with my skin and in my flesh I shall see God my Savior whom I shall see myself and my eyes shall view and not another, this my hope is laid up in my bosom.'" At each corner of this inscription are the symbols of the Evangelists, and in the middle, on each side, is the mark or monogram of Fleming—the merchant's heraldry.*

siderable Armies for them in the West and in Wales, now scarce seen what remains of either. Was not that strong City of most great importance? Were they not very often promised? did not all the Assurances to be relieved come to them? They had known: That place is surrendered. Your Wealth, if you rightly consider in what state you are, promoves your certain and sudden destruction: You are prepared in some things for defense, you know (and we know) you are not for some other.

"Consider these things seriously, and you can not but through them, see your ruine to be inevitable, if you do not avoide it, by accepting what is now offered. We will expect your Answer on Munday next by eleven of the clock in the forenoon at Balderton".

When this ominous communication was received in the Castle Lord Belasyse called his officers about him. It was not long before the draft of an answer was written. This duty was assigned to John Cleveland, the judge advocate, and one may surmise that the duty was exactly to his liking. It is the privilege of the Free Public Library of Newark, New Jersey, to hold in its possession the draft prepared by Cleveland, the gift to it of the Gilstrap Public Library of Newark-on-Trent. It is in Cleveland's handwriting and it is hard to suppress a thrill in perusing it. The famous answer to the Committee of the Parliamentarians follows:

"Having received a Paper subscribed by the Committee of both Kingdoms, directed as to a Committee-Governour, by putting the Gentlemen and Corporation in equal Commission with me (though the joyning us together was with the intention to divide us) I shall in Answer thereof, desire you to reflect upon the King's letter of the 23 of March, sent to the two Houses of Parliament (which I received from your own Quarters) where, in a full compliance with all their desires, upon the most Gracious Conditions that ever Prince propounded, He offers to disband His Forces, and to dismantle His Garrisons; To what end then do you demand that of the Steward, whereof the Lord and Master makes a voluntary tender: I conceive it my duty to trace His Commands, not to outstrip them: So that though Honor and Conscience would permit the Delivery, yet Civility


hereunder thys stone lyeth buryed the Body of
wyllyam phyllypott marchant and Elyzabeth hys
wyffe whych wyllm decessyd ye xxvi daye of maye yn
An dm Pcccc xx whose dethe delyverynge youre
all to have on Remembrans callyng to God for mcy

THE WILLIAM PHYLLYPOTT BRASS IN THE PARISH CHURCH. *This plate perpetuates the memory of William Phyllypott, who died in 1557. It was placed, originally, on his gravestone in the south transept. In 1811 it was removed to the wall of the north aisle. Among other liberal benefactions to the town Phyllypott founded the alms houses in Barnby Gate. An engraving by A. Burrel from a drawing by W. P. Sharlock.*

would retard it, least His Majesties Act of Grace be frustrated by my over hasty speed. I shall waive the Arguments wherewith you endeavour to evince my consent: I am neither to be struck into Apostacy, by the mention of fair Conditions in a Misty Notion, nor to be frighted into dishonor, by your running Division upon the fate of Chester; For as I do not measure my Allegiance by my Interest to the former, so I do disdain that poverty of Spirit, as by resemblance of Chester, to suffer by example: I can be Loyal without that Copy, and I hope this Garrison shall never be the transcript of their Calamity. You may do well to use your fortune modestly, and think not that God Almighty doth applaud your Cause, by reason of your Victories, or that he hath not a Blessing in store for Ours. Whereas you urge the expence of the Siege, and the pressures of the Countrey in supporting your charge there (since occasioned by yourselves) I am not concerned; yet in order to their case, if you will grant a Passe to some Gentlemen to go to the King and return, I may then know His Majesties pleasure, Whether according to His Letter, He will winde up the businesse in general, or leave me to steer my own course, then I shall know what to determine: otherwise I desire you to take notice, that when I received my Commission for the Government of this place, I annexed my life as a Label to my Trust."

It is a rather curious circumstance that in the volume of Cleveland's works referred to farther back there is to be found "The Answer to the Newark Summons" which proves that someone, possibly Lord Belasyse, had occasion to edit his judge advocate a little. For the summons, as published in 1687 reads:

"But that it argues a greater Courage to pass the Test of a Temptation uncorrupted, than with a timorous Vertue to decline the Trial; so jealous is this Maiden Garrison of sullying her Loyalty, that she had return'd your Summons without a perusal. Which rebound of your Letter, as it were a laudable Coyness to preserve her Integrity; so it is the most compendious Answer to what you propound. For I hope you intend it rather as a Mode and Formality to preface your design, than with expectation of an Issue sutable to your Demands. You cannot imagine this untainted Newark, which hath so stoutly

THE DANCE OF DEATH ON THE SIR THOMAS MARKHAM MEMORIAL CHANTRY IN NEWARK CHURCH. *This curious decoration of painted panels may be seen on the structure at the southeast corner of the Choir. Death, represented by a grinning skeleton, is shown facing a richly dressed gentleman of the period. (About 1505). The figure of Death has a flower—perhaps a carnation, symbol of the shortness of life—in his hand. The other hand points to the grave. The thoughtful countenance of the gentleman, with his hand on his purse, suggests the idea of the rich man busy with the cares and pleasures of life, yet at the same time giving heed to the warnings of mortality.*

defended her Honour against several intended Rapes, should be so degenerous from her Virgin Glory, as to admit the Courtship of either your Rival Nations. Having therefore received a Letter subscribed by the Committee of both Kingdoms, she wonders not at your busie endeavour to divert her Trent, since the Thames and Tweed with equal Ambition would crowd into her Channel. Which Letter, since it proceeded from a Committee, and was directed after the same Garb, as to a Committee-Governour, by putting the Gentlemen and Corporation in equal Commission (though the joyning us together was with Intention to divide us) I shall in satisfaction of yours, unanimously desire you to reflect upon the King's letter, lately sent to both Houses of Parliament; where, in a full Complyance with all their Desires upon the softest Terms, and gentlest Conditions that ever Prince propounded, he offers to disband all his Forces, and dismantle his Garrisons. To what end then do you demand that of the Steward, whereof the Lord and Master makes a voluntary Tender? In vain do you court the Inferior Streams, when the Springhead prevents your expectation. It is our Duty to trace his Commands, not to outstrip them. So that if Honour and Conscience would permit the Delivery, meer Manners would retard us, lest by an over-reaching speed we frustrate his Majesty's Act of Grace, and antedate his Royal Disposal. I shall wave the Arguments, wherewith you endeavour to evince our Consent. I am neither to be stroak'd into an Apostacy, by the mention of fair Conditions in a misty Notion; nor to be scar'd into Dishonour, by your running Division on the Fate of Chester. For as I am no Huckster in the War, to measure my Allegiance by my Interest for the former; so I disdain that Poverty of Spirit, by a Resemblance of Chester to be executed in Picture. I shall be Loyal without that copy, and I hope never to be the Transcript of their Calamity. You may do well, Gentlemen, to use your Fortune modestly, and think not that God Almighty doth uphold your Cause by reason of your Victories; perchance he fattens it with present Success for a riper Destruction. For my part I had rather embrace a Wrack floating upon a single Plank, than imbarque in your Action with the fullest Sails, to dance upon the Wings of Fortune. Whereas you urge

THE GRANT OF ARMS TO THE BOROUGH OF NEWARK. *This was made by Sir Gilbert Detheck Garter in 1561. It hangs in the council chamber of the Newark Town Hall. It is on vellum, with an illuminated border, a herald in tabard within the initial letter. The arms themselves, with crest supporters and mantling in the proper metals and tinctures, are set out in the margin. These arms were granted to the town in the third year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Showing the left half only of the original grant.*

What an English Almshouse Looked Like When Dickens Wrote of Them in "Oliver Twist." *The half timbered structures that existed for 200 years or more in Hospital lane, Newark A few years ago these were torn down and replaced by modern cottages for the town's unfortunates.*

the expense of the Siege, and the pressures of the Country in supporting your Charge, there I confess I am touched to the quick: But their Miseries, though they make my Heart bleed, must not make my Honour. My Compassion to my Country must not make me a Paricide to my Prince. Yet in order to their ease, if you will grant me a Pass for some Gentlemen to go to Oxford, that I may know his Majesty's pleasure, whether, according to his Letter, he will wind up the Business in general, or leave every Commander to steer his own Course, then I shall know what to determine. Otherwise I desire you to take notice, that when I received my Commission for the Government of this place, I annex'd my Life as a Label to my Trust."
("*Newark*, 31 *March*, 1646")

Even the edited version of the answer to the first summons did not have any marked effect on the Cromwellian besiegers. By April 27 they were ready to close with Lord Belasyse on their own terms. The second summons to the Governor of the Castle was as follows:

"Wee hope you have considered that our Paper (as you term it) contained a Summons from us: What we received from you, merits no Reply. We were in earnest, as to give an Accompt to God and man of our Proceedings, and to shew, that nothing from you can hinder our endeavouring that you may see your approaching Ruine. And whilest there is time to avoid it, We once more demand of you in the Name of both Houses of Parliament of England, and for the use of King and Parliament, That you forthwith deliver up the Town and Garrison of Newark into their hands; and We shall give you Conditions for the Surrender thereof, which you must not expect to be such as you might formerly have obtained. This is the last Summons We shall send you; now accepting of what is offered, will declare you are sensible of the total losse of your Estates, the devastation of the County round about you; of the Ruine of the Town, and of the Blood which may else be spilt. We shall expect your positive Answer by three of the clock tomorrow in the Afternoon at Balderton.

"*Collingham, April* 27. 1646.

"For the Governour of the Town and Garrison of Newark, the Gentry there, and the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of that Town.

*Signed in the Name, and by the Committee of both Kingdoms.*"

The answer of the Governor to this summons was not so spirited as that written by Cleveland. Evidently Lord Belasyse was beginning to fear that King Charles might not back him up in his defiance of the Parliament. At any rate, this is what Lord Belasyse sent to Colonel General Poyntz, in command of the besieging army:

"I have received a second Summons from the Committee of both Kingdoms; but by their own Directions, the businesse concerns so

many, as they cannot expect a sudden return: However, I desire you would be pleased to let those Lords know, That on Wednesday I shall send mine answer, and remain,

"*Sir*,
"*Your humble servant*,
"John Belasyse."

"*Newark*, *April* 27. 1646."

Two days later Lord Belasyse, evidently deeming it the time to get down to business, sent to the Committee of Both Kingdoms this draft of the terms of surrender. He had heard from the King:

"The consideration of what is required in your Summons of Monday last, being of so high Concernment to His Majesty, and to the particular interests of very many of His faithful Subjects in the Garrison, I conceive a shorter time than Monday next to prepare Articles of so divers natures as are necessary to be Treated on, will not be sufficient. At which time I will not fail to send such to you; and upon your assent to them, to surrender the Town. In the mean time I send you here underwritten, the names of such Commissioners for the Nobility, Gentry, Souldiery, Clergy and Townsmen, as I do intrust for the Treating of those Articles, with an equal number of yours, whose Names I shall desire by the next; and that you will appoint such a place as shall be most convenient for the Treaty. And I further expect, That a safe Conduct be granted, and Hostages delivered for the security of those Commissioners imployed by me,

"John Belasyse."

"*Newark*, *April* 29. 1646.

"The Lord *Lexington*.
Mr. *Bellasyse*.
Sir *Bryan Palmes*.
Sir *Gervas Nevil*.
Col. *Darcy*.
Major General *Eyre*.
Sir *Simon Fanshaw*.
Sir *Gamaliel Dudly*.
Col. *Adkins*.
Dr. *Marsh* Dean of *York*.
Mr. *Standish* Alderman.
Col. *Gilby*."

THE MARKET SQUARE OF NEWARK, SECOND IN EXTENT OF AREA OF ALL THE MARKET SQUARES IN ENGLAND. *In the center the Town Hall, built in 1773-1774; at the left the Bank. The Town Hall cost originally about $85,000 and is an excellent example of Georgian architecture. The front is of stone.*

Thus were brave commander and his men forced by circumstances —and a pusillanimous King—to march out of their bravely defended fortress, on such terms as they could exact. It had been a terrific strain to hold out so long. The garrison had been reduced to all sorts of shifts to get along. Cut off as they were, most of the time, from communication with their compatriots in Royalist circles, they were even compelled to coin their own money. A mint had been set up in the Castle and noblemen and gentlemen gave freely of their flagons and drinking cups which were melted down and fashioned into lozenge-shaped coins—half-crowns, shillings and ninepences and sixpences. Specimens of these curious coins, so freighted with history, are in the possession of the town museum today.

Before the Castle fell its garrison and the town were ridden with contagious disease due to poor food and lack of sanitation. Hundreds died and conditions generally were frightful.

In another Civil War tract published for the Parliamentary forces from London, dated May 13, 1646, a copy of which is in the Newark, N. J., Public Library, ("Printed by Elizabeth Purslow", evidently an early feminist whose adoption of the printing trade it would be interesting to explain) the whole story of the surrender is set forth in considerable detail. The tract is entitled "The King's March with the Scots" and, after a brief preamble, it reads as follows:

"For, whereas the agreement was by the Commissioners on both sides, that Newarke should be surrendered this day to the Commissioners of both Kingdomes, for the Parliament of England. The Governour hath bin so ready to hasten it, that yesterday, being Fryday, the 8 of this instant May, the Lord Belasyse sent to Major Generall Poyntz to have it then surrendered; which, by reason of the sicknesse, being so hot in Newarke, he desired to hasten; as also, the other Lords and Gentlemen, with the Ladies and Gentlewomen did much desire to be speeded, as much as could be, longing for their Inlargement, which occasioned the surrender a day sooner than by the Articles was agreed; and truly, it is become a miserable stinking infected Towne, I pray God they doe not inflict the Countries and Townes adjacent, which is the care of the Commissioners, that way be taken to prevent.

One of the Charming Old-World Mid-Block Alleys of Newark. *Alleys such as this are hidden away in the squares of the town and are bordered by cottages, each with some sort of flower or shrubbery bed at the door. Many of the tiny houses are 200 years or more old.*

"Yesterday the Commissioners came up to see them march out of Newarke; they carryed not much out of the Towne, for they had but very few Carriages: we have gathered together 4000 Armes alreadie, and there are more; which, by reason of the sicknesse in divers places, the Officers dare not yet venture to fetch out, nor make that diligent search, which will afterwards be made, so soone as with safetie we may.

"We have taken Sweet-lips (the great Gunne) which they so much esteem'd of, and 11 more great pieces, two Morter pieces, and divers Drakes, and other small pieces, and 40 Gunpowder, with great store Match, Bullets, and all sorts of Ammunition.

"Those of Newarke Garrison, from the greatest to the least, doe all of them generally seeme to be discontented at their hearing, that the King hath delivered himselfe up to the Scots, and are very much troubled at the hearing thereof, which makes many of them to repent, that ever they were engaged in the service, being like men in amaze at the hearing of it; and when 800 of them had marched out with the Lord Belasyse the Governour, and it was expected they should name to what Garrison they should march, they would not nominate any Garrison to march to, for the further service of the King in the designe against the Parliament: But (as all the rest that came out of Newarke, who were about 1000 more) so they went every one to their owne homes: So that, as I confesse, I know not where they could have easily found out any Garrison unbesieged to march to, according to the Articles, so they did not take care to put themselves into any other prison in that service, in which they have received so little satisfaction.

"The Governour (to give him his due) hath beene very punctuall, and the conditions very exactly observed, and performed so fully, as I beleeve, ever any were, and all of them are very diligent to procure a good repute of the Parliament, the Commissioners and the Country, for which they labour much, and thereby make way to compound with the Parliament for their delinquency: I beleeve that all those of qualitie (of whom there are many) will continue labouring to compound for their estates.

"The Countrie thereabouts are all summoned to come in with Spades, Shovels, Pick-axes, and other necessaries on Monday next, to

The Famous White Hart Inn, Often Referred to in Documents of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries. *It is believed that this house was erected about 1413. It is the oldest house in the town and is of most curious architecture. The facade is decorated with plaster work and exhibits a series of niches with figures still in them, a very uncommon feature in England, though common in some parts of the Continent. Where the row of windows now is was once a gallery open to the weather. It is known to have been standing in the reign of Henry IV. It is now a shop. The archway over the entrance to the inn yard can plainly be seen.*

assist in the demolishing of the Workes of Newarke, which are very many, strong, and formidable, I beleeve they will come in very joyfully to that worke, which tends to so great an ease to all those parts, as they have found by wofull experience, since they felt the oppression of that Garrison, and others, of all which they are now cleare, and all will be buried in the ruins of this, which they are forthwith to levell. Doctor Deane, Doctor Hurst, Doctor March, and divers other malignant Clergy-men were in Newarke, who with the Gentrie, as Alderman Atkinson, and the rest of the malignant Townes-men, and others, are very sad in the Towne, so as they walke away in a mournfull posture; the troubles of those parts, being now most troubled in their own thoughts."

The writer of the news letter in the tract, who signs himself only "Your humble servant, S. R.", can not resist expressing his respect for Lord Belasyse in this paragraph:

"The Governour hath had very great care of all things in Newarke, to see that nothing should be imbezzeled, and has shewed himself very noble; there is a great change, by which God hath given us experience of his great power, in bringing downe the hearts of the proud and haughty."

The report ends with these words:

"Newarke is now open and free againe, and the Trades-men are preparing to furnish their shops, our Souldiers have already bought divers things of them, and the Country have a free market, but it cannot be expected to bee much, whilst the sicknesse is in the Towne; but to God be the praise, who hath done this great work for us, to deliver this strong hold of the enemies unto our hands; I pray God, that others (so oppressed) may have the like mercy, and peace and truth be setled amongst us."

So fell King Charles I, and with him his "Stronghold of the North." As soon as the surrender was effected the orders of Cromwell were that the noble pile, that had stood since Bishop Alexander, was to be razed to end for all time its menace. It was not obliterated, to the good fortune of the generations that came after, but as a fortification it was made useless. And with the disappearance of the Castle as a place of defense came to an end the history of Newark as a place of national significance The rest of the pageant is taken up with figures of importance, but importance of a different kind.

UNDER the Protectorate the town of Newark was made to pay for its loyalty to the Stuarts. It was years before the place recovered anything like its former prosperity. With the Restoration the skies brightened somewhat. Somewhere between the years 1632 and 1638 Rev. Abraham Pierson, the same who in 1639 came to America and was one of the Founders of Newark, New Jersey, is said to have preached in Newark Parish Church, but there is no scintilla of proof of this. A curious coincidence is found in the fact that Rev. Dr.

AN INN YARD OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY. *The central enclosure of the "White Hart" looking out through the ancient archway to the main street. Under this arch may have ridden horsemen of King Henry IV as hostlers ran to take the bridles.*

Richard Pearson was appointed vicar at Newark, the same year in which the Connecticut colonists first made their appearance in the Passaic River. There were, and are, plenty of Pearsons in Yorkshire, but the name of Abraham Pierson is not among the Nottinghamshire generations of the mid-seventeenth century.

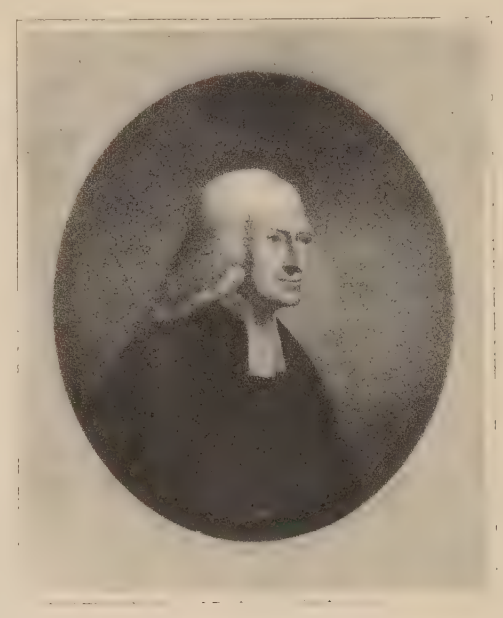
THE GOVERNOR'S HOUSE IN NEWARK. *This splendid example of Fifteenth Century domestic architecture stands in Stodman street, at the southwest corner of Market square. It was in this house that Prince Rupert stayed during the Civil War and from which he went forth to his famous audience with King Charles I.*

But that is a digression. The Pageant waits for further figures. Royalty came no more to Newark. With the Castle gone, King Charles II never visited the town, nor did King James II, but an entry in a diary of a Newark citizen under date of November 9, 1695, relates how the town presented, or tried to present, a silver sceptre, "curiously cut and engraved", to King William, "but he would not accept thereof". A bag of gold was likewise refused, the new King saying that taxes were too high to warrant expensive presents to him. All this took place at Lincoln, so William does not get in the pageant. With the death of Queen Anne in 1714 the line of Stuarts, to which Newark had clung with such fidelity, came to an end.

There is a persisting tradition that the Young Pretender, Prince Charles Edward Stuart, passed through Newark on the occasion of his ill-starred invasion in 1745. The story is that the young Prince's men were regaled with cakes and ale, but the tale lacks proof—in fact, there is considerable doubt

whether "Bonnie Prince Charlie" ever saw the town. But a tradition is a tradition. The foundations of the present Town Hall were laid in 1773 and it cost $85,000, a huge sum for those days and for Newark.

John Wesley visited Newark in 1743, and subsequently paid it many more visits. In 1780, on one of his stays, he preached, as he wrote afterward, in a place "covered on three sides, and on the fourth open to the street. It contained two or three thousand people well, who appeared to hear as for life. Only one big man, exceeding drunk, was very noisy and turbulent till his wife (fortissima Tyndaridarum) seized him by the collar, gave him two or three heavy boxes on the ear, and dragged him away like a calf; but at length he got out of her hands, crept in among the people, and stood quiet as a lamb". In June, 1786, Wesley wrote of Newark that it was "one of the most elegant towns in England".



John Wesley, Who Preached in Newark Many Times. *His first visit to the town was in 1743 and his last, as a very old man, in 1789. In 1786, in writing of Newark to a friend, he described it as "one of the most elegant towns in England." From an engraving of a miniature painted near the close of Wesley's long life.*

Newark became a center of the printing trade about the last quarter of the eighteenth century. In 1778 "The Book of Common Prayer" was printed by J. Tomlinson and S. Creswell. They were forerunners of other printers, among them the famous firm of S. and J. Ridge, who, in 1806, printed the first published volume of George, Lord Byron, then a youth of seventeen. Byron was living in Southwell at the time, with his mother.

Byron's first volume, a quarto of sixty-six pages, with no title page, but with a fly-title, "Fugitive Pieces", was not, however, the first print-

ing done for him by the Ridges. Earlier in the same year the printers prepared copies of one of the poems which later appeared in the volume named, and he sent a copy to Miss Elizabeth Pigot of Southwell. But the Ridges will be famous for all time as Byron's first publishers.

In January, 1807, the Ridges printed for Lord Byron the volume, "Poems on Various Occasions". Only 100 copies left the press. It contained forty-eight poems, thirty-six of which had appeared previously in "Fugitive Pieces". Nearly all the copies of the first book were burned by Byron in a rage over certain caustic criticisms they received, so that "Poems on Various Occasions" sometimes is called his first book. Six months later he had the Ridges print and publish "Hours of Idleness; a Series of Poems, original and translated, by George Gordon, Lord Byron, a Minor. Newark: S. and J. Ridge, 1807". It was the scathing criticisms of "Hours of Idleness" that elicited Byron's famous answer: "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers". Then Byron went on to greater glories and other publishers.

William Ewart Gladstone, from a Photograph Taken About 1865. *In 1832 Gladstone began his political career by being elected to Parliament from the Newark constituency. At that time he was the protege of the Duke of Newcastle. In 1838 Gladstone was called by Lord Macaulay the "rising hope of stern, unbending Tories." He resigned his seat in 1846 to become Secretary of State for the Colonies in Sir Robert Peel's Cabinet. That was his last official connection with the town.*

In September, 1829, the Duke of Wellington slept in the Clinton Arms, Newark, named in honor of that Sir George Clinton who was chosen a member of Parliament from the town while away in America fighting for his King against the rebellious colonists, but never took

his seat. The Iron Duke was on his way to the Doncaster races when he honored the town with his presence for a night. Nevertheless, the tough old warrior should find a place in the pageant.

LORD BYRON, WHOSE FIRST VOLUME OF POEMS WAS PRIVATELY PRINTED IN NEWARK IN 1806. *When Byron was seventeen years old he collected 38 bits of his juvenilia and sent them to the printers, S. and J. Ridge of Newark for publication in the later suppressed volume, "Fugitive Pieces," which today is excessively rare. It is a quarto of 66 pages, of which only three or four copies are in existence. In 1807 the Ridges printed another volume, "Poems on Various Occasions," of which only 100 copies left the press. Byron had been staying with his mother at Southwell, and the repute of the Ridges as printers being high, he entrusted his youthful efforts to them. From a portrait painted in 1807 by G. Sanders. Engraving by Edward Findon, published in London in 1834.*

Queen Victoria ascended the throne in 1837, and in 1852 she, with the Prince Consort, paid the town a visit. As a girl she had often driven through Newark with her mother, the Duchess of Kent, on the way to and from Doncaster, but as a matron she stopped on her way to Balmoral and was received in state by the officials and citizens.

One more figure of import must cross the stage before the pageant shall come to an end. In 1832 the Duke of Newcastle, whose lands embraced the town of Newark, proposed for the town's Parliamentary seat a young man who was his protege, one William E. Gladstone. The sitting member was Sergeant Thomas Wilde, a leading barrister and a Radical. The Duke needed another Conservative seat so he nominated young Gladstone. The canvass was very lively; the contemporary accounts read somewhat like the famous contest in Eatanswill depicted by Dickens in "Pickwick Papers". It was considerable of an undertaking for a youth of twenty-two to contest the seat with an old campaigner like Sergeant Wilde, especially as the day he arrived

in Newark was the first he ever had set foot in the place. In his later years Gladstone confessed that his canvass of Newark was the most stressful experience he ever underwent. But he won, and for several terms continued to represent Newark, resigning his seat only to take a portfolio in the Cabinet of Sir Robert Peel, in 1846. But the portentous figure of Gladstone certainly belongs in the Newark pageant.

Perhaps two other figures, not so impressive, may take places. For many years the Robertson family had been more or less engaged in the modest theatrical enterprises of the town. As far back as 1790 a Mr. and Mrs. Robertson produced "Cymbeline" at a benefit performance. Two Robertsons, Tom and his sister Madge, were products of Newark. Tom was a playright and actor, author of "Caste" and other plays popular fifty years ago, and Madge became noted as Mrs. Kendal.

SO ends the Pageant of Newark; fittingly enough the curtain descends on two "strolling players". Today the ancient town lies in a secluded corner of England, yet still on "The Road to the North", content, as to its 17,000 inhabitants, to live a placid present and look back upon a glorious past. Its citizens enjoy a goodly heritage of faith kept when all was dark; a strong spirit aflame when need called. Newark, New Jersey—perhaps not a daughter, but assuredly an admiring friend—greets her lovingly across the sea and in this modest volume pays a tribute of respect.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE *preparation of The Pageant of Newark-on-Trent would have been difficult if not impossible had it not been for the assistance of a group of gentlemen resident in the ancient town to which the book is a memorial. These gentlemen, shown in the accompanying cut, are—reading from left to right*—William Bradley, J. P., *chairman of the museum committee of the Gilstrap Public Library of Newark-on-Trent;* Arthur Smith, M. L. A., *librarian and curator of the library, and* Colonel F. H. B. Hodgkinson, *Alderman and member of the library committee. Mr. Bradley is an antiquarian of note and gave to his city all the contents of its historical museum. When the City of Newark, N. J., celebrated its 250th anniversary in 1916 he sent across the sea many books, pictures, prints and other exhibits to mark his interest in that event. Colonel Hodgkinson has, since that time, also donated to the New Jersey Newark much historical material.*

*Invaluable assistance in the writing of the present work was obtained from the monumental History of Newark-on-Trent, which was the life endeavor of the late* Cornelius Brown, *one of the ancient British town's most loyal and devoted sons.*

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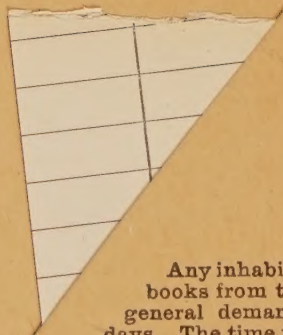


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